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KOMLEV HITS WEST'S ESTIMATE OF NATO, WARSAW PACT STRENGTHS

LD180823Y Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 33, 11 Aug 78 pp 8-9 LD

[V. Komlev article: "The Western Arithmetic in Vienna"]

[Text] The main obstacle at the Vienna talks still remains the West's proposal to implement asymmetrical reductions in the armed forces of both groups in central Europe. The essence of this proposal is a considerably more substantial reduction in the socialist armies in comparison with NATO. The Western representatives attempt to justify this by citing the allegation that the Warsaw Pact ground forces appreciably outnumber the forces of the North Atlantic bloc. But they are unable to buttress their allegations with specific arguments or even to explain what this assessment is based on.

There is nothing surprising about that. The 150,000-plus servicemen whom the East is supposedly "concealing" from the West are no needles in a haystack. If they really existed, then during the debate about numerical strength over the last 18 months the West could have at least registered its desire to investigate this question--something which, however, did not happen. The NATO countries are rejecting the socialist states' constructive initiatives aimed at ascertaining the truth. For instance, so far they have not consented to exchange data on the manning levels [stepen ukomplektovannosti] of individual states' forces--data which play a substantial role in determining their numerical strength.

This position cannot help but suggest that some people in the West are interested not in headway at the Vienna talks but in artificially supercharging the air with hysteria about the "Soviet threat."

The line of intimidation through fantasies about the "danger" from the Soviet Union is not new. The methods for deliberately overstating the socialist states' numerical strength were also perfected long ago. Much has been written about them in the West. Here is one method of intentionally overstating the socialist states' military potential: The numerical strength of their armed forces is calculated on the basis of estimates that are based on their prescribed strength. However, it is well known that as a rule, troops in peacetime are not at full strength, and manning levels may be different for different states.

Here is another method that is also used to distort the real coorelation of forces: The North Atlantic pact takes into account only those units that the Western states officially place at the disposal of NATO while the Warsaw Pact take into account all their armed forces. As a result, the NATO military personnel figure is artificially understated by approximately 33 percent.

The arsenal of unfair means of comparing the military balance also includes selecting individual elements from a complex of factors. Thus the comparison is frequently carried out in terms of the number of divisions with deliberate disregard for the serious differences between them in terms of both numerical strength of personnel and their organizational structure and armaments. In the opinion of A. Enthoven, former U.S. assistant secretary of defense, these differences "make comparison in terms of the number of divisions meaningless."

The fueling of fear of the "Soviet threat" is aided by manipulations involved in counting the regions. For instance, in assessing the balance in central Europe, the Western military districts of the USSR and sometimes even its territory up to the Urals are arbitrarily included in that zone. Swedish expert A. Sandstrom, who has made a long study of the problem of reducing troops in central Europe, points our that the West's calculations of the numerical strength of the Warsaw Pact's armed forces include personnel deployed in western regions of the USSR. At the same time the U.S. dual-based units and the French troops stationed on FRG territory are not counted as part of NATO's armed forces. This is pointed out by the U.S. specialists D. Newhouse, T. Stanley, (E. Frid) and (M. Koren) in their work, "U.S. Troops in Europe." Analyzing the data cited by London's Institute for Strategic Studies on the military balance in central Europe, the authors note other instances of manipulation of figures. For instance, utilizing the differences in both armed forces' organization, the analysts from the Institute for Strategic Studies do not take into account the civilian personnel in the NATO forces who perform functions which, to a considerable extent, are performed by servicemen in the socialist forces. The 5,000 tanks in depots in the area of reductions are not included in the total number of tanks in the West has at its disposal in central Europe. And here, questions of antitank weapons and of the existence of a great quantity of other armored equipment, helicopters and artillery within the NATO forces are totally sidestepped.

The arbitrary nature of the Western methods of calculation is no secret to many people. Austria's DIE PRESSE supposes that the West's insistence on the disproportion in ground forces could be alleviated through an understanding on changing calculation methods.

The invalidity of the figures put forward by the Western representatives at the Vienna talks may be illustrated by the following example: In November 1973, they declared that the numerical strength of the NATO ground forces in the proposed reduction zone totaled 777,000 men. But in March 1975, then U.S. Defense Secretary J. Schlesinger told Congress that NATO has 890,000 men there in the ground forces. The difference between these two figures is quite substantial and has practically not decreased since the West submitted new, amended figures in December 1976.

The selfsame Schlesinger recognized a "tendency, for precautionary purposes, to exaggerate the size of the enemy's forces." According to him, this method is actually utilized in certain countries as a legislative ploy and as a means of obtaining broad support for military programs when public support for the military's efforts is weak. DER SPIEGEL has also written about this: "The danger from the East seems greater the more rightwing the position of the person assessing it."

In reality, the exchange of official figures in 1976, both sides' submission of extensive additional figures last March-April and protracted, careful study of these have clearly shown that the West has no grounds whatsoever for asserting that there are disproportions in the numerical strength of NATO and the Warsaw Pact in central Europe. An equilibrium of forces has taken shape there, as on the European Continent as a whole, and has existed for many years now. One expression of this is the equality in the numerical strength of both groups forces. This fact, which really exists, is widely acknowledged in the West. FRG Bundestag Deputy (A. Pavelchik), a prominent specialist on military problems, stresses in an article in NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG that the correlation of forces between NATO and the Warsaw Pact is in general and on the whole stable. Recognition of this objective factor by the Western delegations at the Vienna talks is a necessary condition for their success.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD201720Y Moscow International Service in Russian 0730 GMT 20 Aug 78 LD

[Moscow 'International Observers Roundtable' program with Albert Grigoryants, IZVESTIYA foreign section editor; Stanislav Kondrashov, IZVESTIYA political observer; and Aleksandr Druzhinin, Central Television and All-Union Radio political observer]

[Text] [Druzhinin] Hello, comrade listeners. Another week of August--the month that in the West is frequently referred to as the dead season in politics--has passed. August is a time for vacations, and it is said that it is now possible to find more politicians on the European beaches than in ministerial offices and parliamentary corridors. But the impression of political calm is deceptive. Life does not stand still. Life does not recognize dead political seasons. Complex processes are developing in the international arena. We are reminded of these daily in the pages of the world press.

The past week was no exception. It is enough to look through foreign newspapers for the last few days to be convinced that the problems of detente and strengthening peace and the security of the people, wherever they live--in Europe, the Middle East, Asia or on the North American Continent--are continuing to agitate the world public. Detente is gaining more and more supporters, and more and more politicians are beginning to share the conviction, expressed last week during Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's talk with Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee, that the countries adopting positions of detente possess a great potential to develop mutually useful cooperation in very diverse fields. A vivid example of such cooperation is the relationship between the countries of the socialist community in the political, economic and cultural spheres. Many examples of successful development of mutually-beneficial business links are also provided by the relations of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries with some capitalist states.

[Grigoryants] Yes, trade and industrial cooperation and scientific-technical collaboration all comprise a solid material base for political detente. Since the Helsinki conference a great deal has been done in Europe to develop business links between East and West. Trade has been growing and new forms of cooperation have appeared. Progress in Soviet-FRG relations has been particularly noticeable. The FRG has become a major trading partner of the Soviet Union among the capitalist states.

Everything indicates that trade turnover this year may reach DM12 billion. This trade, Bonn's GENERAL ANZEIGER writes, is useful and is a cause of satisfaction. It is noteworthy that both sides are more and more energetically switching from traditional trade exchanges to the realization of joint large-scale production projects. Progress has been achieved in realizing the projects for the Oskol electrometallurgical combine and the Mogilev complex for the production of chemical fibres. Talks are underway on the joint construction of a large-scale chemical complex at Tomsk, and so on. Both the Soviet Union and the FRG are counting on long-term cooperation.

U.S. Trade Blackmail

It must be said that business circles in other Western countries, including the United States, are ready to trade with us. I can recall a conversation with a representative of the large American corporation, Rockwell International. We are ready, he said, to sign deals with you worth billions, but we are not sure that Mr Jackson and his supporters in Congress would not have them canceled. It is apparent that the problem is the shortsighted discriminatory policy of the Washington administration.

In effect, the United States is the only Western country which puts obstacles in the way of trade with the Soviet Union, although by restricting this trade, the United States is damaging itself first of all. It is losing a potential market for its goods and services. Meanwhile it has been a long time since America has had a monopoly over technology and scientific know-how. The White House is reminded of this by American businessmen, who are concerned over the fact that, because of the policy of the Carter administration, contracts are going to competitors from Japan, the FRG, France and Britain.

Having worked itself into a corner, the United States is attempting to draw its allies into this unseemly game. As you know, under pressure from blatantly anti-Soviet people in Congress, the U.S. Government canceled a contract for the sale to the Soviet Union of a Sperry-Univac computer. However, the Common Market countries and Japan have similar computers, which they may sell. Now the Carter administration, according to press reports, has called upon its European allies and Japan to join in the refusal to sell a computer to the Soviet Union. Commenting on this move by the U.S. Government, the weekly BUSINESS WEEK calls it unprecedented.

The point is that the export of complex equipment which the West believes has military significance is under the control of the Coordinating Committee of East-West Trade, known as COCOM. However, the restrictions drawn up by COCOM do not extend to the Univac system. You see, this is not strategic equipment. Nevertheless, the United States is demanding that its allies join in the ban. This, indeed, is the language of diktat and an attempt to impose on sovereign states a policy which is contrary to their economic requirements and national interests.

It is not fortuitous that an official spokesman of the French Foreign Ministry states, in response to the pressure from across the ocean, that France does not subordinate the sale of civilian industrial equipment to political considerations. There has been roughly the same reaction from business circles in Britain and the FRG. Experience shows that the policy of bans and restrictions in international trade is contrary to the objective requirements of the times and the interests of international detente and that there is no future in such a policy.

West's Economic Crisis

[Druzhinin] Albert Aramovich, I rather think that this position of the Western powers, who do not wish to support Washington in its anti-Soviet game, can be explained this way. First, many Western politicans clearly realize that turning trade into an instrument of blackmail and pressure on the socialist countries can only further poison the international atmosphere and exacerbate relations between East and West. Second, there are also serious economic reasons. Given the harsh competitive struggle being waged between the leading capitalist countries, the United States is doing other Western countries considerable harm by pushing them into a policy of discrimination in trade with the Soviet Union. The leading capitalist states do not conceal their interest in trade with the socialist countries. They need such trade and do not want it to be sacrificed to Washington's selfish political interests, especially since the United States is no longer able to act as some sort of guarantor of the West's economic well-being.

The American economy itself continues to experience grave difficulties and cannot rid itself of unhealthy interruptions and crisis symptoms. The dollar, which at one time was the major currency in the capitalist world, is in critical condition. I think even Western economists have lost count of the currency crises which have recently been caused by the dollar's instability. Now there is another such crisis. During the past week the dollar rate again dropped sharply on the currency exchanges of Tokyo, Frankfurt, Zurich and Amsterdam, descending to a new record low.

On 14 August, for example, on the Frankfurt exchange the dollar was at its lowest rate ever. In the past years the value of the dollar has dropped 30 percent in relation to the Japanese yen, 35 percent to the Swiss franc and 15 percent to the West German mark.

The Western business circles are in a panic again. I have here a UPI report from Washington. Two days ago, deeply disturbed by the fall in the dollar, President Carter called upon U.S. Treasury Secretary Blumenthal and Federal Reserve Chairman Miller to provide urgent recommendations on how to overcome this dramatic process. Meanwhile, an explanation for this process has long been provided by many Western economic experts.

One of the reasons for the catastrophic fall in the dollar exchange rate is inflation, which is having a cruel impact on the American economy. The pace of inflation is mounting. In the first half of this year it was over 10 percent, instead of the expected 7 percent. The Washington administration has shamefully lost its widely publicized war on inflation largely because of the vast, ever-increasing arms spending. It is not only bearing this expenditure itself, but is also calling upon its allies to bear it also. If there was a sensible recommendation that the White House's economic advisers could make, it would be a recommendation that the United States make an attempt to restrain the arms race. But the facts, including recent events, show that certain American circles in their anti-Soviet intoxication, are further stirring up military tension, extensively involving America's NATO allies in their militarist plans.

NATO Maneuvers

[Gigoryants] By the way, the broad series of military exercises which NATO has now begun over a huge area from Norway to the Mediterranean confirms this view once more. What is characteristic of the exercises this year? They are taking place after the recent NATO Council session in Washington which adopted a new long-term military program and gave the go-ahead for an escalation in the arms race. The first thing one notices is the scale of the planned maneuvers. According to official figures, more than 200,000 officers and men and a large quantity of military equipment will take part. The second thing is the particularly offensive nature of the operations which the NATO generals have planned. It is reported that the United States will transfer about 13,000 soldiers to West Germany to gain the experience of a speedy buildup in its strike forces on the European Continent.

Finally, the series of NATO military maneuvers is accompanied by a particularly clamorous propaganda campaign in an attempt to intimidate public opinion in the West with that same mythical Soviet threat. Both the fuss in the press and the training cannonades in the field pursue the same aim: to prepare the NATO population psychologically for a new round of military preparations. More evidence of this is the recent conference of NATO reserve officers, which was held in Bonn. Observers drew attention to the speech made by General Wust, the inspector general of the Bundeswehr. As the newspaper DIE WELT writes, Wust stressed the need to modernize NATO's tactical nuclear weapons and, in doing so, made clear reference to neutron weapons. That was another reason why it was necessary to frighten people with the threat from the East, saying that the superiority in strength of the Warsaw Pact is so great that the West cannot hold out without neutron weapons. As we see, it is the same old song.

It is no coincidence either that DIE WELT, in another article, does not conceal its satisfaction over the fact that what it calls a significant change in mood has taken place in the United States which could influence a decision in favor of neutron weapons.

The danger of all this militaristic commotion is all the more obvious in that, thanks to the persistent efforts of the socialist states, there is now a real opportunity in Europe to supplement political detente with military detente, to agree on measures to restrain the arms race. There is a real opportunity to finally agree on the lowering of military confrontation in Europe. We want this seriously. Now it is up to the West.

It should be noted that the series of major NATO military exercises and the attempts of Atlantic circles to kindle a military psychosis in Europe are complicating the resolution of the pressing task of intensifying detente and extending it to the military field. They run counter to the aspiration of the European peoples for the strengthening of peace on our continent.

[Druzhinin] This is striking. In pursuing their policy of obstructing the lessening of tension, the opponents of detente in the West, especially in the United States, have reliable partners and accomplices in the East, in Peking. It is no coincidence that the Peking leadership's maneuvers, aimed at worsening the situation in Southeast Asia and the Pacific Ocean basin, are currently arousing serious alarm throughout the world and compel the public to follow with tense attention the development of events in this region. I want to ask Stanislav Nikolayevich Kondrashov, a participant in our conversation today, to talk about this situation.

Sino-Japanese Treaty

[Kondrashov] The conclusion of a treaty of peace and friendship between two major Far Eastern states like China and Japan, which were at war 35 years ago, cannot fail to stir up interest in its own right. But on this occasion we are dealing with a special interest, with special commentaries. And they are caused--let us stress this right from the start--by the nature of the Sino-Japanese treaty and the direction which Peking would like to give it.

It should be mentioned that public opinion, the press and a number of politicians from various parties in Japan, including some from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, are also seriously concerned over the possible consequences of signing this treaty. What is causing this concern? Above all, the bellicose nature of Peking's foreign policy. The statements of official Chinese representatives about the treaty, including their interpretation of Article II as being directed against the Soviet Union, show why they need this document. The Peking leaders would like to use it to worsen the international situation in Asia, to the detriment of the security of Japan's neighbors and, to a certain extent, to alter the basis of Japan's foreign policy in the interests of Peking.

We know that the history of the treaty between Japan and China goes back 5 years and that there were many hesitations, doubts and apprehensions in Japan. Last spring, I had occasion to visit this country, and several times the Japanese people to whom I spoke, spoke of the danger of the treaty, which had not been signed then, and defined the source of this danger as China's attempts to force Japan into an anti-Soviet stance. Some of these people were from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, although they noted then that they were a minority, an opposition minority.

But it should be noted that now that the treaty has been signed, Japanese officials insist that their interpretation of this document is not identical to the Chinese. Recently, Japanese leaders have been asserting and emphasizing that Japan intends to continue the policy of developing its relations with the Soviet Union. For example, Sonoda, the Japanese foreign minister, said on his return from Peking that the treaty that had been signed was not hostile to the Soviet Union. Sonoda added: We will strive to develop friendly relations with the USSR and to resolve common issues.

The instructions which Prime Minister Fukuda is reported to have given to Mr Uomoto, the new Japanese ambassador in Moscow, should evidently be viewed in the same light. According to KYODO TSUSHIN agency, Fukuda told Uomoto that Japan attaches great importance to relations not only with China but with the Soviet Union. Well, statements like this should be taken into consideration. Time will show to what extent these assurances will be backed up in practice in Japanese foreign policy.

The history of the Sino-Japanese treaty convinces us once again of the shameless anti-Soviet nature of Peking's foreign policy. In general, it has to be said that it is a paradox--a temporary one, we hope--that China--a state which claims to be socialist--eagerly assumes the dirtiest work of imperialist, extremely reactionary and anti-Soviet propaganda; not only propaganda, but also subversive activities, diplomatic provocations and international intrigue. This is precisely the course of the so-called activization of Chinese foreign policy and all Peking's activities in the international arena, which have now become more frequent since the self-isolation of the last Mao Tse-tung years.

PRC-SRV Clash

[Druzhinin] Stanislav Nikolayevich, I would like to add to what you have said about this. Peking eagerly repeats the fabrications about hegemonism in Soviet policy. The aim of these allegations is to distract the attention of Asian countries from the real hegemonism, from the real threat of expansionism stemming from China itself. Today everyone can see how China treats small countries if they cherish their independence and wish to chart an independent course. Socialist Vietnam is such a country. It enjoys great international prestige and plays a constructive and important role in Southeast Asian affairs and contributes to the stabilization of the situation in this region, the consolidation of peace there and the development of cooperation based on equality.

But this course of events, this policy, does not suit Peking. Vietnam is in the way of its hegemonistic policy. This is why the Chinese leaders have lashed out at it with such fury. China is deliberately fanning the Kampuchean-Vietnamese conflict. Kampuchea has been drawn into the field of Maoist experiments. This means brutal mass repressions, deprivation and poverty inside the country and reckless military adventures outside it, which China is now directing against Vietnam. Furthermore, Peking is trying to check Vietnam's economic development. It has withdrawn its specialists, has stopped supplying spare parts and is hindering the transit of goods for Vietnam from European countries. I recently had occasion to visit our Soviet frontier station at Zabaykalsk. I saw dozens of wagons loaded with important national economic goods for Vietnam, which the Chinese are not allowing through their territory on various pretexts.

Finally, Peking unleashed a slander campaign against Vietnam involving the status of people of Chinese nationality living in that country. According to existing data, there are 1.2 million ethnic Chinese living in Vietnam, which has a population of 50 million. One million of these Chinese live in the south, including 700,000 in Ho Chi Minh City. The majority of these Chinese are working people. But among them are many big businessmen, traders and speculators. Measures taken by the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for the socialist reconstruction of the south struck at these rich men. Peking immediately stood up for them and raised a hullabaloo about repression of Chinese by the Vietnamese authorities. Peking unleashed a real psychological war against Vietnam aimed at forcing hundreds of thousands of people of Chinese nationality to leave for China. Thousands of confused people have now crowded into border points. But the Chinese side keeps the border closed and the Chinese agents provoke these trapped people to violent actions.

As we can see, people of Chinese nationality, the Huachiao, are being used by Peking simply as an instrument for subversive activity against Vietnam. Is any more evidence needed of the hegemonistic ambitions of the Chinese leaders, their arrogant, great-power attitude toward neighboring states? At their meeting in the Crimea, Comrades Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and Todor Zhivkov pointed out the hegemonistic policy of China, which is deeply hostile to the interests of peace and socialism. They confirmed the warm solidarity of their countries with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, which is subjected to gross pressure from the PRC. The policy of diktat, threats and provocations, by imperialism or Maoism, is doomed to failure. Strivings toward peace, neighborliness and mutual trust and equal co-operation are increasingly determining the international political climate today, in spite of all the intrigues of the enemies of detente.

Camp David Conference

There is another region where events continue to arouse serious concern. This is the Middle East. These events show that Washington is making new attempts to achieve a separate deal between Egypt and Israel. The U.S. press has been making a lot of fuss in the past few days about the meeting in 2 weeks of As-Sadat, Begin and President Carter at Camp David, the presidential retreat.

This will be the first time that all three have sat down at the same table. Vance, the U.S. secretary of state, has just returned from the Middle East where he sorted out the details of the forthcoming meeting. The preparations are being made in great secrecy. However, enough information is filtering into the press to allow one to assess the situation which is preceding the coming talks. If one believes the reports in the foreign press, both As-Sadat and Begin will set off across the ocean emptyhanded. Neither of them, allegedly, is bringing any concrete proposals to Washington. However, the United States, as national security advisor Brzezinski stated, supposedly has a constructive plan for a settlement. However, statements by other high ranking U.S. politicians and observers show little agreement with this statement; they are unable to hide their scepticism about Washington's diplomatic maneuvers. President Carter himself, at his latest press conference, was forced to admit that he was starting a very risky political game by inviting Begin and As-Sadat to the United States. Carter is laying his personal prestige on the line, AP reports from Washington. According to the general opinion, no preliminary understanding has been worked out in advance to insure the success of the summit meeting.

In this case, what is Washington counting on? It appears to be counting on again putting pressure on the Egyptian president and on forcing him to finally accept the plan for a separate deal with Israel, on American-Israeli terms. Informed observers in Washington have no doubt that As-Sadat will be the object of joint pressure from the United States and Israel. They point out that one form the pressure could take would be U.S. military and economic aid to Egypt. For example, one cannot help but point out that discussion of the foreign aid bill in the House, which includes Egypt, was unexpectedly postponed until mid-September--that is, after the Camp David meeting. Congressional circles frankly mention the possibility of canceling the deal for supplying U.S. F-5E aircraft to Egypt if As-Sadat proves not to be sufficiently obliging. These facts show quite clearly what its organizers are expecting from the Camp David meeting.

[Kondrashov] Although much is being written and much deep thought is being given to discussions about the forthcoming Camp David meeting, it is difficult to avoid having an ironic attitude toward it or having the simple impression that this is a sort of political illusion involving, for the hundredth time, the boring, empty though sentimental melodrama with some sort of title like saving the the historic initiative of As-Sadat.

Even people whose position obliges them to avoid speculation cannot hide their skepticism. One such person is UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. My skepticism, Waldheim said a few days ago, is based on past experience. And everyone remembers this experience. To begin with, almost a year ago there was the sensational trip to Jerusalem by As-Sadat; and the Western press and politicians, especially across the ocean, exhausted this as the historic peace initiative. But there have since been so many failures and reverses in the so-called direct talks between Egypt and Israel, so many rescue expeditions by U.S. envoy Atherton and Secretary of State Vance and President Carter himself, that everyone has lost count.

But the rescue did not happen. In fact, the initiative sank long ago. And now floating on the surface there remains only some sort of semblance, some sort of mirage. Now we have a new meeting, like a new attempt to refresh and renew the old illusions.

As-Sadat is in an especially pitiful situation, although what he needs most are illusions, or to be more accurate, ways to deceive his people. As-Sadat's Cairo press is comforting the Egyptians and other Arabs by saying that America had allegedly finally agreed to become an equal partner at the talks. This is the foundation for the assumption that the United States will propose their plan and will put pressure on the Israelis to return occupied Arab territories. This is yet another example of building on sand. It is an old game and again a lost one.

America would like to get on good terms with reactionary Arab regimes, but not at the expense of Israeli interests. The Israeli lobby, the Zionist groups are as strong as ever and invincible. The Carter administration which has experienced their strength more than once in the past year, having burned its fingers, will not risk it again. Therefore, Israel has been given assurances in advance that the U.S. Government will not put pressure on it. This was stated by Secretary of State Vance. In this connection it is perhaps worthwhile to cite what was said recently by Senator Abourezk, an American of Arab origin. The battlefield is not the Golan Heights or Sinai but Washington, Abourezk said. Without our support, Israel would not be able to remain such an expansionist state.

[Druzhinin] From everything that has been said, Stanislav Nikolayevich, I think one can draw the following conclusion: The routine U.S. initiative in the Middle East has nothing in common with the interests of a genuine peace settlement in this region. In words, of course, Washington appears as a peacemaker, impartial umpire, concerned, allegedly, only with peace in the Middle East. In effect, Washington's maneuvers are simply new separate steps leading further away from an ultimate solution of the Middle East problem.

But at the same time, the way toward such a solution remains open, this way still exists. It involves the Geneva peace conference on the Middle East. The USSR and other countries who are genuinely interested in peace in the Middle East insist on the resumption of its work. The necessity for solving the Middle East problem at precisely this forum with the participation of all the interested sides and taking account of the interests of all the peoples of the Arab east, including the Arab people of Palestine, was clearly stressed in the joint Soviet-U.S. statement on the Middle East, adopted in October last year, a statement which Washington has completely buried in oblivion.

It is only on this basis that a genuinely just peace can be achieved in one of the most tense regions of the globe, a peace which is so essential to improve the international atmosphere as a whole.

With that allow me to end today's conversation. Thank you, comrade listeners, for your attention. Goodbye.

DEBATE CONTINUES AT UN ANTIRACISM CONFERENCE

LD182216Y Moscow TASS in English 2127 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, August 18, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Lopatin reports: The World Conference Against Racism and Racial Discrimination continues its deliberations at the Geneva Palace of Nations.

G. Konie (Zambia), chairman of the U.N. council for Namibia, spoke at the plenary session on the gross violations of human rights in Namibia as a result of the policy of racial discrimination and apartheid pursued there by the South Africa administration. The stubborn refusal of the Republic of South Africa to quit Namibia is a challenge to the international community. In such conditions, G. Konie stressed, the people of Namibia have no other way out except the armed struggle which was begun in 1966 under the leadership of SWAPO.

The U.N. decisions with regard to the colonialist and racist regimes in South Africa are not being fully implemented, noted E. Zapotocky, Czechoslovakia's representative. These regimes enjoy the support of the NATO countries and their monopolies, which, far from being suspended, is growing into a close cooperation increasing in a number of various areas, among others, in the nuclear field.

The speech by James Murray, the British representative, sounded as a sharp contrast with the general tenor of the speeches. He actually had assumed the role of an advocate for the racist regimes of the south of Africa calling for an end to their boycott and isolation.

The chief bulwarks of racism and racial discrimination are still the Republic of South Africa and the United States, stressed E. Malandu, representative of the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe. Racism in its various forms persists in Britain and other imperialist countries, a number of whom not only refuse to sign the existing international anti-racist conventions, but provide political, financial and military assistance to the racist regimes.

The representative of China in his speech today indulged in the new standard in Peking's propaganda falsehoods in the spirit of the so-called "super-power theory." In rebuffing the Chinese representative, A.S. Dsasokhov, the Soviet representative, stated that the anti-Soviet allegations were necessary for the Chinese delegate to create a smokescreen to cover up the treacherous role of Peking with regard to the national liberation anti-imperialist struggle. Resorting to such tactics, the Chinese leaders would like to shake the steadfastness of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in questions of supporting the fighting people of Africa and thus to leave these freedom-loving people to face imperialism and neo-colonialism alone, the USSR representative stated.

Angolan Delegate's Remarks

LD192218Y Moscow TASS in English 1745 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, August 19, TASS--The World Conference Against Racism and Racial Discrimination continues its deliberations at the Geneva Palace of Nations. Angolan representative Olga Lima pointed out that armed struggle remains the only means to liberate the peoples of South Africa and Palestine. Resolution of the problem of apartheid, she said, is in the hands of the revolutionary forces of the Republic of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe, united around their liberation movements. The aim of the movements is to destroy the racist and fascist regimes. It is necessary, said the representative of Angola, to increase assistance to those who have (?taken up arms) to fight colonialism (?and) racist domination.

UNITED STATES

CARTER DISCUSSES ARMS BILL, TRADE BAN, MIDEAST SUMMIT

LD181812Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1605 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Washington, 18 August, TASS--President Carter has held a press conference at which he announced his decision to veto the military spending bill passed by Congress. He justified the decision by saying that he does not agree with the distribution of funds on individual articles in the budget. In particular, he objected to the reduction in the sum requested by the administration for arms and technology for ground troops and for the Air Force. He also objected to the reduced funding for increasing combat-preparedness--including transportation of armed forces and insuring the possibility of immediate response--and also the reduction of funds for military work, scientific research and design-testing.

At the same time the President contended that $2 billion earmarked by Congress for the construction of a new atomic aircraft carrier were not necessary. Thus, the main concern of the President is not the actual military expenditure itself, nor its reduction, but only the questions of allocation of funds to the individual articles of the budget. In any case, this is and remains a budget for the arms race.

In connection with the recent discriminatory decision by the White House to prohibit the sale of the Univac computer to the Soviet Union and other analogous discriminatory measures, J. Carter was asked: "Are you planning to continue applying trade sanctions against the Soviet Union in view of the fact that certain countries among the allies, France for example, do not wish to cooperate with this?"

As has happened frequently, the President's answer was contradictory. On the one hand he said: "It is quite obvious that we do not intend to declare an embargo on trade with the Soviet Union and to suspend all trade. It is advantageous for our country to trade with the Soviet Union. I believe that the embargoes which previous administrations introduced in the past did much harm to our country." I do not intend to do this, stated J. Carter. On the other hand, he added, in the future the United States does not intend to refrain from applying discriminatory measures in trade with Soviet Union.

Concerning the forthcoming meeting at Camp David, which will include As-Sadat, Begin and Carter, the President declared that the United States had no guarantee of success. I do not expect, he said, complete success at this meeting and the signing of a peace treaty in such a short time. But, if we can induce the partners to sit down and talk and, as he expressed it, settle the disagreements, then in this case, in Carter's opinion, the framework can be created for concluding peace in the future.

J. Carter stated that he had not received from Israel and Egypt "any pledges that they intend to change their previously proclaimed positions as a prelude to or preliminary condition before the meeting in Camp David." Meanwhile, it is known that Israel is categorically refusing to withdraw its troops from the occupied West Bank of the Jordan and satisfy the national rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

'CHINA CARD' POLICY ERODES NECESSARY MUTUAL TRUST

LD200224Y Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

["Moscow Viewpoint" commentary by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] There is a general in Tolstoy's novel "War and Peace" who prepared for battle by planning where his own troops will move but totally ignoring what the enemy troops may do.

Such ivory tower strategy has become the hallmark of some politicians in Washington. The President's assistant on national security, Dr Brzezinski, is smart as a whip at formulating concepts that, in his opinion, should guide United States foreign policy. One is the idea that America and continental China have common strategic interests.

It's hard to see what produced this idea since the two countries set themselves quite different goals. Opposition to the Soviet Union alone is hardly a realistic basis for a strategic community. To my mind this concept is no more than a tactical maneuver. It cannot last long because it conflicts with America's basic interests. To play the China card is nearsighted and dangerous. There is little doubt Peking has no wish to serve as a card in an American game but does wish to use America in its own game.

Mao Tse-tung once wrote a poem about a wise man of China who watched from a hilltop while two tigers he reared fought it out to the death in the valley below. The poem was intended to point the moral that the wise man sits it out while his enemies kill off each other. Today this idea is the cornerstone of Peking's strategy. Only a blind man can fail to see that Peking is playing the American card, is trying to clash the United States and the Soviet Union and see what it can get out of the clash. But if some Washington politicians have pinned their hopes on the China card this is indeed a childish attempt to bludgeon the Soviet Union with the threat of a Sino-American alliance. Childish, because it assumes the leaders of the Soviet Union have weak nerves and, more than that, are incapable of seeing the political miscalculations in this maneuver.

What determines political realities is not paper alliances or declarations but the balance of strength. The Soviet Union has enough information about the real economic and military potentials of present-day China to understand how small is the threat that some would like to frighten it with. The Soviet Union is also aware of the struggle for power that has been going on in China for years and shows no sign of ending. This struggle destabilizes the political situation there. If some politicians in Washington are pinning long-term plans on China they are laboring under a delusion.

Such an authority on international affairs as Dr Henry Morgenthau points out in the New York TIMES that playing the China card would make sense if China were so strong that its joining with America would change the balance of strength in the world decisively in America's favor or at least give America some serious advantages. But since China, as Dr Morgenthau says, is an underdeveloped country that may become a mighty power only in the remote future, playing the China card against the Soviet Union will simply worsen the position of the United States in the world.

This is a fully realistic view of things, and I found during a recent visit to Washington, that it's shared by numbers of senators, congressmen and influential news analysts. In my conversations with these men I heard the view expressed that the political situation in the world depends above all on relations between America and the Soviet Union, the two major powers today. The state of these relations will determine whether a nuclear war can be prevented, whether the costly and dangerous arms race can be slowed down and finally stopped and whether something can be done to better the world's economic situation. But for normal relations, for progress on SALT-II and then SALT-III there must be trust on both sides. Neither side must feel the other is playing a double game, trying to use negotiations to cover up attempts to change the balance of strength. Neither side must feel the other is trying to undermine its national security.

Attempts in Washington to play the China card are not only unrealistic. They are dangerous because they erode mutual trust. They may well arouse serious doubts in the Soviet public as to the good intentions of Washington. Just recently President Brezhnev warned that playing the China card was nearsighted and dangerous. The authors of this policy, he said, may have to pay dearly for it.

Against Soviet Interests

LD210128Y Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 20 Aug 78 LD

[Nikolay Shishlin commentary]

[Excerpts] Cooperation between the United States and China would have been accepted as quite a normal and natural process if its development hadn't [word indistinct] with some of the geopolitical calculations aimed against the interests of third countries, including Soviet interests. The Soviet Union is working to create peaceful conditions that it needs to carry out its programmes of national development and raise living standards.

Yet there have been attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of the Soviet Union, and hypocritical campaigns have been launched in defense of human rights, which are allegedly violated in the Soviet Union. Meanwhile, it is well known that the cases in question deal not with critics but with few opponents of the socialist system who have entered the road of subversive activities against their country and established direct contact with subversive centers abroad. It is not Soviet policy but hostile campaigns against the Soviet Union that obstruct broader cultural cooperation and exchanges of ideas and people. The interests the Soviet Union pursues do not contradict either the interests of other nations or the interests of peace and social progress.

Meanwhile, it's no secret that American-Chinese cooperation is aimed against the interests of the Soviet Union, against the interests of other socialist states. In view of this, ways chosen to promote American-Chinese relations in fact serve to destabilize the world political situation. It is natural that continuation of this course cannot but lead to retaliatory measures from the Soviet side. The United States press asserts already now that relaxation is dead, that it does not exist. It's wrong to say this. Lessening of tension remains a key trend in international affairs because there are the vital interests of all nations behind it.

CARTER APPOINTMENT OF SANDERS SHOWS PRO-ISRAEL STANCE

LD191820Y Moscow TASS in English 1757 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Text] New York, August 19, TASS--President of the United States Carter appointed Edward Sanders chief counsel of the White House and the Department of State for Near Eastern affairs. Edward Sanders is known as the head of the so-called American-Israeli Public Relations Committee, an influential pro-Israeli lobby in Washington.

It is noted here that this appointment was announced a fortnight before the opening of the talks at Camp David between President Carter, Israeli Prime Minister Begin and Egyptian President as-Sadat.

As is known, Israel repeated on the eve of the talks that it has no intention of withdrawing its troops from occupied Arab lands and of meeting lawful national rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

Analysts are of the opinion that Sanders' appointment as the White House counsel for Near Eastern affairs shows again that Washington, conniving with pro-Israeli circles of the USA, fully supports Israel's annexationist claims.

ADMINISTRATION HAS CONFLICTING STANCES ON TEST BAN TREATY

LD181039Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Aug 78 p 4 LD

[Text] Washington, 15 August TASS--The House Armed Services Committee has started hearings on the impact on U.S. military potential and its national security interests of the conclusion by the United States of a total nuclear weapons test ban treaty and a strategic offensive arms limitation treaty.

Opening the hearings, Representative C. Wilson said that they will be devoted to clarifying the question of whether the conclusion of these treaties will adversely affect the U.S. efforts to further improve and create new types of nuclear weapons and strategic armaments as a whole.

Thus, these hearings will not discuss accelerating the process of the Soviet-American disarmament talks but, on the contrary, will discuss impeding them. It is well known that, while participating in these talks for the last few years, the United States has at the same time been accelerating the arms race, building up military spending and developing more and more new systems of weapons of mass destruction, including neutron weapons.

Assistant Energy Secretary D. Kerr, whose budget includes the billion-dollar appropriations for the development of neutron and other types of nuclear weapons, was the first to speak on behalf of the administration at the hearings. His speech left no doubt that the United States has no intention of abandoning this activity.

According to Kerr's allegations, the conclusion of a total and general nuclear test ban treaty "would considerably complicate the nuclear armaments programs under the Department of Energy's jurisdiction." In the event of a ban on all types of tests, he admonished, "we may lose our advantages in the sphere of nuclear weapons production."

It is indicative that statements of this kind are being made at the same time that the USSR, the United States and Britain are holding trilateral talks in Geneva to elaborate a treaty on the total prohibition of nuclear weapons tests. In a recent joint communique the participants noted "substantial progress" and stated their desire to carry these talks through to a rapid and successful conclusion.

The divergence which now exists between the American side's statements at the talks in Geneva in support of banning all nuclear tests [as published] and the remarks of official administration representatives in Washington opposing such a ban cannot fail to cause surprise.

Congressional Arms Debate

LD191812Y Moscow International Service in English 1300 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Report by Washington correspondent Yuriy Soltan]

[Text] The Congress Armed Services Committee has ended a 2-day debate. It wanted to know whether any harm could be done to the security of the United States by the signing of the Soviet-American agreements on limiting strategic offensive arms and on halting temporarily all nuclear tests. Though the congressmen were compelled to admit the significance of those agreements, their statements, as well as the conclusion of the committee, were aimed, on the whole, at making the American public doubt the importance and the need to sign them speedily.

Actually there was nothing surprising about the stand taken by the committee. Before deciding anything it always looks back at what the arms manufacturers might think. Besides, in Congress today, in both the House and Senate, most of the legislators have strong anti-Soviet feelings and intend to help step up the arms race. That was very well expressed when the military budget for the 1979 fiscal year was being discussed. The final decision on it will be taken in the middle of next month.

Congress supported the request of President Carter to increase military allocations. The military budget on the whole will increase to almost $130 billion. Funds are being allocated to build [word indistinct] missiles, neutron nuclear warheads, new aircraft carriers, tanks and other arms and equipment. Incidentally, the debate was accompanied in Congress by anti-Soviet hysteria and groundless statements [few words indistinct] desire of the Soviet Union to gain a military superiority over the United States.

True, there were some sober-minded politicians in both the Senate and the House who warned against a further arms buildup and called for signing speedily agreements with the Soviet Union to limit the production of missiles and other nuclear weapons. Unfortunately, however, they are yet in the minority. As for the feelings of the rank and file Americans, even President Carter in his latest interview for the U.S NEWS & WORLD REPORT was compelled to admit that the majority, that is 75 percent, favor disarmament agreements with the Soviet Union and demand that the leaders of the country successfully complete talks on them. In the same interview, President Carter expressed the wish of the administration to complete at the earliest date the drafting of an agreement with the Soviet Union on limiting missiles and other nuclear weapons.

This isn't the first time the Americans bear such statements, but so far both the White House and Congress seem to do very little to put these good intentions into practice.

U.S REFUSES TO PARTICIPATE IN ANTIRACISM CONFERENCE

LD191448Y Moscow TASS in English 1341 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Washington, August 19, TASS--The White House has officially announced the United States refusal to take part in the World Conference Against Racism and Racial Discrimination, which began its deliberations in Geneva on August 14. The refusal to take part in this important international forum was explained by Washington by the fact that the notion of racialism is allegedly being used for political purposes.

The White House also reported that the United States is also unable to take part in the U.N. decade against racism and racial discrimination, since, according to the definition adopted by the United Nations, Zionism is a form of racism. Here, however, the attention is drawn to the fact that the reason for Washington's refusal to take part in the conference is evidently not its desire to protect its junior partner, Tel Aviv, from just accusations for pursuing a racist policy with regard to the Arab population of Israel and the territories occupied by it. Underlining the stand taken by the White House is the actual encouragement by the official authorities of the policy of racial discrimination with regard to the ethnic minorities, including Negroes, Indians and U.S. citizens of Latin American origin.

So far, the United States has not ratified, together with other important international human rights instruments, the international convention on elimination of all forms of racial discrimination. And this is no coincidence.

As was recently admitted by Andrew Young, U.S. permanent representative at the United Nations, numerous groups of Americans still lack adequate protection from the juridical system and are deprived of full citizenship.

The announcement of the White House is a new testimony of the hypocritical position taken by Washington in matters pertaining to human rights.

CIA ACTIVITIES BROADENED TO INCLUDE 'ALLIES, FRIENDS'

LD181522Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1225 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Washington, 18 Aug--U.S. President J. Carter paid a visit to the CIA headquarters in Langley, a suburb of Washington. While he was there he addressed CIA operatives and also had a separate chat with a group of "spies."

The President gave the CIA the task of organizing a global system of espionage directed primarily against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. He also stressed that now the sphere of CIA activities will be broadened and that it should encompass the whole world, "including our close allies and friends."

As is known, from the moment it emerged in 1947 the CIA has been the main tool of U.S. imperialism in interfering in the domestic affairs of other countries. The acts of diversion, the use of mercenaries to overthrow regimes which are undesirable to Washington, political assassinations, the delivery of arms to the opposition forces, the falsification of election results, subversive activities against progressive organizations--this is an incomplete list of the unseemly activities of the main espionage agency of the United States.

The latest large-scale CIA secret operation was the U.S. interference in Angola, where it supported the Republic of South Africa's racists and mutinous groups against the legal government of the People's Republic of Angola. The CIA aided the rebel groups with dollars and arms and recruited mercenaries for them in the United States and Western Europe. As a report by a special Senate committee, which has been investigating the dirty business of the U.S. intelligence agency, notes, from 1961 onward it has carried out around 900 major and several thousand minor subversive operations throughout the world.

Within the framework of this policy, a plan was put into effect to overthrow the legally elected government of Salvador Allende, and bourgeois parties in a number of West European countries were financed to prevent the strengthening of the positions of leftwing forces. As has already been reported, in the course of the special Senate committee investigations, irrefutable facts confirmed that the U.S. spy agency organized plots to kill foreign political leaders, including Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee, chairman of the Council of State and Council of Ministers.

To carry out its "global policy," the CIA recruits scientific personnel and university professors and is not squeamish about employing journalists. These scientists and journalists not only supply information to the CIA, but also prepare various propaganda materials. According to the Senate committee testimony, the CIA assigns particular importance to book publishing, with the spy agency paying primary attention to the publication and distribution abroad of anti-Soviet books and other materials. For these purposes, as has already been reported, the Central Intelligence Agency resorts to the services of so-called "dissidents" and other kinds of renegades.

Domestic Activities

LD181305Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 15 Aug 78 p 3 LD

[V. Biryukov article: "CIA's Camouflage"]

[Text] In a recent speech at a meeting of the San Diego City Chamber of Commerce, Adm Stansfield Turner, director of the CIA, declared that henceforth the American espionage agency will no longer have any secrets from U.S. citizens. It is not difficult to see why Turner has started talking this way. Since the moment the CIA was created in 1947 various congressional committees and other U.S. official organs have been forced to investigate the CIA's criminal activity more than 200 times. Political murders, persecution and harassment of dissidents, bugging, opening correspondence, secret searches, secret medical experiments on people's minds--that is a far from complete list of the dark deeds for which the American espionage agency has earned notoriety in the United States and throughout the world.

In the numerous reorganizations of the CIA, the U.S. authorities have given main attention to appeasing the indignant public, while at the same time concealing the CIA's illegal operations still more profoundly behind a tighter organizational structure.

Turner's sweeping promises can fool no one. As is well known, the CIA is still the faithful servant of big capital and defends the interests of the military-industrial complex, and this means that the offensive against American citizens' rights will continue....

PEACE CORPS 'SUBVERSIVE' ACTIVITIES TO BE EXPANDED

LD182250Y Moscow TASS in English 2134 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

[Text] New York, August 18, TASS--Andrew Young, the U.S. permanent representative at the United Nations, who arrived in Santo Domingo to take part in the ceremony of inauguration of the new president of the Dominican Republic, came up with an appeal to increase the membership of the American Peace Corps. As is known, this organization has been, from the beginning of the sixties, broadly utilized by the United States to propagandise "the American way of life" and to collect intelligence information in the developing countries. Suffice it to say that from its very inception the Peace Corps has been financed from the funds set up to carry out operations within the framework of the struggle against communism.

The exposure of the subversive activities of the "corps" as well as its close ties with the CIA has resulted in its members being expelled from India, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Libya and a number of other countries. Many countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America demanded a reduction in the numbers of the so-called "apostles of peace".

Recently, however, the Washington administration is trying to activise the activities of this organization. With this purpose in mind, the U.S. Congress has increased by several million dollars the appropriations for the Peace Corps, whose total budget for the 1979 fiscal year amounts to 95.1 million dollars. In order to impart to the organization "greater independence", the post of the Peace Corps director, eliminated in 1971, has now been restored. Last year, 2,700 new Peace Corps members were sent to 64 countries. According to New York TIMES, the corps intends in the coming years to extend its activities to all the developing countries.

PRC-JAPAN TREATY CONFORMS WITH U.S. PLAN TO SUBVERT CHINA

OW180255Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 15 Aug 78 OW

[(Shadrin) commentary]

[Text] Under ordinary circumstances, the signing of a bilateral treaty or agreement is a purely internal matter for the countries involved. However, the so-called peace and friendship treaty between China and Japan has gone beyond their bilateral relations. The purpose of this treaty is to undermine international security, particularly the security of Asia, and to encourage the trend of Japanese militarism.

The Chinese people still vividly remember the atrocities committed by the Japanese aggressors in China. The people of Southeast Asia also have not forgotten the Japanese aggressors' atrocities. Now Japan is actively developing its military potential. The most reactionary clique in Tokyo advocates further strengthening Japan's military power to enable Japan to use force to threaten its neighbors. Moreover, we must not forget that Japan maintains close military ties with the United States. There are U.S. military bases on Japanese territory. Japan and the U.S. imperialists are colluding to make China their subordinate, force it to accept colonial slavery and deprive it of the capability to conduct an independent policy. Isn't this the precise reason that Washington has so ardently supported the so-called peace and friendship treaty between China and Japan?

The U.S. imperialists have realized that with the Japanese militarists clique they can more thoroughly manipulate the Chinese leaders. By using such appealing words as "peace" and "friendship," the Japan-China treaty painstakingly attempts to conceal such policy goals, which contradict the national aspirations of the Chinese people.

Sino-Soviet Treaty 'Abolished'

OW180952Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1100 GMT 16 Aug 78 OW

[Glebov commentary: "A National Betrayal"]

[Excerpts] The so-called China-Japan Peace and Friendship Treaty has been signed in Peking. The various reactions to this event show that the general world public firmly opposes the treaty, while the reactionary cliques and militarists are dancing with joy and gleefully hailing its conclusion.

It is well known that the Japanese militarists caused enormous suffering and misfortune in China. Therefore, we must agree with the following argument: By signing the so-called peace and friendship treaty with Japan and incorporating the anti-Soviet clause into the treaty, the Chinese leaders have committed an act of national betrayal. They have betrayed the glorious revolutionary tradition of the Chinese people and their tradition of resisting Japanese aggression and opposing imperialism. They have desecrated the fine sons and daughters of the Chinese people who sacrificed themselves in the war of resistance against Japan.

By signing this treaty, Peking has abolished the 14 February 1950 Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assiatance between the Soviet Union and China. Undoubtedly, this act also betrays China's national interests.

The signing of the Sino-Soviet treaty was hailed at the time in China and abroad as a milestone in history, the result of years of glorious struggle waged by the Chinese people against Japanese and U.S. aggression and the fruit of the internationalist unity of the Soviet Union and China. Under the treaty, the two parties pledge jointly to take all measures to prevent a repetition of aggression and violation of the peace by Japan and to prevent any third country from joining Japan in aggression. In the event one of the parties becomes involved in hostilities with Japan as a result of an attack by the latter, the other party would immediately provide all the military and other support and assistance to its treaty partner. All these provisions are based on historical facts.

Many foreign observers have pointed out that in signing the Japan-China Peace and Friendship Treaty, China has kept the U.S.-Japan mutual cooperation and security treaty in mind and has been influenced by this treaty. What does this mean? It means that China, by its own choice, has become the secondary partner of U.S. imperialism and Japanese militarism and has decided to oppose the national liberation movement in Asia and oppose peace, socialism and [word indistinct]. In the past and presently, the U.S.-Japan mutual cooperation and security treaty has contained anti-China characteristics. However, Peking has ignored this fact. Please give this thought. If this is not selling out their fundamental national interests, what else can it be?

PRC SEEKS TO APPEASE OIL-RICH ARAB STATES

LD182337Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

[Text] The adage, "you cannot conceal the sun by a sieve," applies perfectly to Peking's Middle East policy. Peking continues to assure the Arabs that it supports the Arabs' just cause, as it claims. However, its actions prove the opposite, as can be seen from numerous events, primarily, Peking's support for the capitulationist unilateral policy of the Egyptian leadership in the Middle East.

One of these events was disclosed by two West German papers: NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG and STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG. The two papers exposed one of the reasons that prompted Peking to freeze relations with the Palestinians. It seems that Peking wanted to appease the West in expectation of receiving arms from it. Peking also sought to appease the oil-rich Arab reactionary regimes with the hope of expanding its influence through these Arab countries.

This proves once more a fact that is becoming clearer everyday--that Peking regards Arab interests as a merely temporary issue in its foreign policy.

SEMENOV BOOK TRACES DEVELOPMENT OF PRC-USSR RELATIONS

LD181541Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Aug 78 p 3 LD

[V. Zubakov book review: "Along the Path of Betrayal"]

[Text] The Soviet people greatly respect the hard-working Chinese people. For many years they provided them with comprehensive aid and support. As genuine internationalists they provided their knowledge and shared experiences. Many Soviet advisers and specialists worked with great enthusiasm on Chinese territory.

Soviet memoir literature does not contain many works showing this labor of Soviet advisers and specialists who worked abroad. Therefore, the recently published book by Candidate of Military Sciences Lt Gen G. Semenov, "Three Years in Peking" (G. Semenov, "Three Years in Peking," "Nauka" Publishing House, 1978, 296 pages, price 1 ruble, 90 kopeks), will undoubtedly be greeted with interest by readers.

As Semenov correctly notes, after the formation of the PRC in 1949 "the newly victorious China was incapable by its own efforts of creating a regular army." Moreover, U.S. imperialism and its Chiang Kai-shek servants had not abandoned hopes for revenge. The Pentagon bosses continued to create a "cordon sanitaire" around the PRC. Unleashing aggression against the DPRK in 1950, the U.S. military made plans to extend it to China. Chinese cities and villages were subjected to air attacks. Formations of Chinese volunteers came to the aid of the Korean people. Soviet aid acquired important significance under those conditions. But it was not just weapons which came from the USSR. Soviet pilots, risking their lives, virtually closed off the sky of northeast China from U.S. air pirates. Soviet military advisers provided great help in forming and training the officer cadres of the Chinese Army, organizing defensive measures in the event of possible landings on the Chinese coast and so forth. The author is completely justified in writing that Soviet military specialists, "the envoys of the Soviet Armed Forces gave great assistance to the Chinese command in creating a regular army, forming and training special troops and developing a network of military training establishments...."

The work of the Soviet military specialists was highly rated by the Chinese leaders, who favored friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union. Then commander in chief of the Chinese PLA, the legendary commander Chu Teh, said: "The mighty Soviet Army is an invincible force in insuring peace. Its great heroism, manifested in the defense of the motherland, and its unprecedented victories, gained in the struggle against fascism, serve as a remarkable example both for the entire PLA and for our volunteers in Korea."

As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev has repeatedly pointed out, "the fundamental interests of the Soviet and Chinese peoples not only do not clash, they coincide." Many examples and facts cited in G. Semenov's book confirm the validity of that statement.

However, Mao Tse-tung's group, not having decided at that time to openly adopt anti-Soviet positions, viewed completely differently both the experience of the USSR Armed Forces and the activity of Soviet military specialists. At closed conferences of the Chinese leadership Mao Tse-tung slandered their work in every way and advised the Chinese leadership to "not prevent their making a few more mistakes," so that they could discredit both the advisers themselves and the achievements of the Soviet Union and its army as a whole. This has been reflected in the actions of those who have succeeded Mao. As G. Semenov writes, "our proposals were hidden away under lock and key."

Under those conditions, Mao Tse-tung and his accomplices succeeded in undermining the friendship between the Chinese and Soviet peoples and torpedoing the ties which had developed between the armed forces of the two countries. Moreover, Mao Tse-tung, having begun his defamation of the work of Soviet specialists, including military specialists, began fabricating all kinds of "accusations" against the Soviet Union. He launched fabrications on the USSR's supposed desire to "establish control" over the Chinese Navy, establish Soviet military bases on PRC territory and so forth.

All the words and deeds of Mao Tse-tung and his supporters sought the single goal of smearing the peace-loving policy of the Soviet Union and of creating an excuse for forming a bloc with the most reactionary imperialist circles on the common platform of anti-Sovietism. All this was confirmed by the practise of Maoism in subsequent years.

The "Cultural Revolution" launched by Mao Tse-tung in 1966 led to rampant militarism and chauvinism in China. The country had the atmosphere of a "beleaguered fortress" and huge sums were wasted on military requirements. The Maoist preaching on the "inevitability of a new world war" was Peking's main domestic and foreign policy.

As later events demonstrated, the Chinese leaders who replaced Mao not only entirely welcomed his goals and methods but also further developed the policy of anti-Sovietism. The decisions of the 11th CCP Congress and the session of the Chinese National People's Congress set the task of creating "the widest international front of struggle" against the Soviet Union and its friends and allies. As in the past, Peking is seeking to accomplish this task by conniving with the forces of the most reactionary imperialist circles, including NATO and others. General Haig, supreme commander in chief of the allied armed forces of the aggressive NATO bloc, justifiably said: "It is by no means bereft of logic to say that China is the 16th member of the North Atlantic alliance."

Such a description says much, and therefore it is not surprising that the most welcome guests in Peking are envoys of the most reactionary forces--"hawks" such as U.S. Senator Jackson, F.J. Strauss, leader of the West German revanchists, and others like them. Particular concern is aroused among the progressive world public by the ever growing contacts between the Peking leaders and the NATO warriors and representatives of Japanese militarist circles. Recently, the following were invited to visit China: former U.S. Defense Secretary Schlesinger; Adm Zumwalt, former U.S. chief of Naval Operations; and West German generals Trettner, former general inspector of the Bundeswehr, Kielmansegg, former commander of NATO allied forces in the European central zone, and Rear Adm Poser, head of the NATO security service. They all served at one time in Hitler's army. Visits to China by the Japanese military--present and former high-ranking officials of the Japanese National Defense Agency--are becoming increasingly frequent.

They are all given a top-level welcome, are shown military sites and units, are conducted on maneuvers and exercises and their advice and recommendations are requested.

High-ranking Chinese officials are appealing to the NATO warriors to "strengthen and expand" that aggressive bloc and more resolutely oppose the peace-loving policy of the socialist countries. For their part, Peking's guests extol in every way the inflammatory course of the Maoists and hastily seek to become some kind of "allies" with Peking in the struggle against the forces of peace and progress. The extent of the designs of the NATO military and the Maoists is proven by the statements of the British defense chief of staff, Marshal of Aviation N. Cameron, during his recent visit to China. To the approval of Chinese officers and other officials he stated: "We both have an enemy, whose capital is Moscow." Later, he called on his Chinese hosts to "exchange experience" in opposing "Soviet tank forces." [paragraph continues]

These words were also greeted by loud applause. Thus, former Hitler warriors, Japanese militarists and NATO bosses are virtually being invited by the Maoists to adopt the role of advisers and mentors. Such is the path of betrayal chosen by the Maoists. To this could also be added the tours of high-ranking Peking military officials around the NATO countries, where they display acute interest in the latest kinds of weapons and attempt to obtain models in order to accelerate the modernization of their army. For this reason, the ever increasing danger to peace carried by this bloc between the Maoists and the imperialists is becoming particularly apparent.

The extensive militarization conducted by the Peking leaders, the territorial claims made by them on neighboring countries, the unrestrained preaching of the inevitability of a new war and the desire to acquire the most lethal kinds of weapons, including the neutron bomb, are all a serious threat to world peace and are harming the interests of all peace-loving people, including the Chinese people.

G. Semenov ends his memoirs with a Chinese proverb: "Spring comes even after the hardest winter." The Soviet people want normal, neighborly relations with China. This is proven by the appeal of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium to the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress and by a series of other Soviet proposals. The somber page in the history of China will eventually be turned by the Chinese people themselves.

PRC ATTEMPTS TO OPPOSE TAIWAN'S INDEPENDENCE IMPRACTICAL

OW210515Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1000 GMT 17 Aug 78 OW

[Text] According to foreign press reports, foreign investment in Taiwan increased 70 percent this year over last year. The United States ranks first among the foreign investors and maintains close political and economic ties with the Taiwan regime. U.S. Government and private investment in the Taiwan economy has exceeded $2 billion.

The rapid growth of foreign investment is proof of the international capitalists' faith in Taiwan's stability. Thus, it is not practical for Peking to continue to oppose Taiwan's independent existence. Furthermore, Peking has agreed not to liberate Taiwan in order to consolidate its contacts with the United States.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON HUA KUO-FENG'S VISIT TO ROMANIA

PRC Press Coverage Scored

LD191138Y Moscow International Service in English 1000 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Peking newspapers give wide coverage to Hua Kuo-feng's visit to Romania, and stress that his line at the talks in Bucharest is directed first of all against the Soviet Union. Under a banner headline in the newspaper JENMIN JIHPAO--or PEOPLE'S DAILY--it gives a summary of Hua Kuo-feng's speech at a reception in Romania which contains a number of anti-Soviet attacks slightly disguised with the usual Maoist phraseology.

Special mention is made of Hua Kuo-feng's point about the struggle against hegemonism, which, as is known, amounts in Chinese interpretation to mean the struggle against the Soviet Union. There is nothing more incompatible with and remote from reality than to accuse the Soviet Union of hegemonism. Claims of this sort known to be slanderous in advance are being constantly made by the Chinese leaders, who themselves in practice follow a practice of hegemonism, while ascribing it to the Soviet Union without any reason for it.

Continuing his line, Hua Kuo-feng claimed in his speech that the forces of imperialism and hegemonism are stretching out their feelers everywhere. He referred in doing so to a statement by Nicolae Ceausescu, who said: We believe that the main characteristic of this stage is a stronger policy of division of the world into spheres of influence and domination, the old imperialist-colonialist policy of strength and tension, which gives rise to tensions and threatens security and peace.

In his statement, Hua Kuo-feng did not say a word about the relaxation of tensions, against which the Peking leaders are waging a struggle, as it is known. But apparently with due account for the sentiments of the European peoples, he declared that allegedly China is conducting a multisided struggle against the forces of war and is resolutely acting against attempts to start a war. But in a recent statement that was circulated in the Peking press and abroad, the Chinese defense minister said a different thing: War is an absolutely normal phenomenon and for this reason it is inevitable.

The Peking press also gives a summary of the speech by the general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, President Nicolae Ceausescu, singling out points in it about the development of Chinese-Romanian cooperation. Special mention is made of a report about the ratification of a long-term Chinese-Romanian agreement about economic and technical cooperation.

There is another revealing fact: On the same day, the Chinese press carried an article about Russian-Romanian relations, which Chinese authors would like to pass off as a historical piece of research--rather which is actually a blatant falsification having the aim to spread feelings of hostility towards the Soviet Union among the Romanian people.

AGERPRES Commentary Cited

LD181538Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1330 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

[Text] AGERPRES news agency has commented on relations between Romania and the socialist countries. The commentary was timed for the visit to Romania of the chairman of the Communist Party of China, Hua Kuo-feng.

The commentary says that Romania's foreign policy is based on development of relations of friendship, solidarity and cooperation with all the socialist states.

AGERPRES made a special point of stressing that Romania does not use its relations with China as a counterweight to relations with the other socialist countries. The commentary notes that Romania will remain an active member of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and the Warsaw Treaty.

The Council for Mutual Economic Assistance is an international economic organization incorporating 10 socialist states, and the Warsaw Treaty is a defensive alliance of the East European socialist states.

Ceausescu Speech 'Veiled Criticism'

LD201306Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1330 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Text] This week, China's premier, Hua Kuo-feng, left for a tour of foreign countries. Besides Romania, where he is at present, Hua Kuo-feng will also visit Yugoslavia and Iran.

On the eve of his departure from Peking, China's vice premier, Li Hsien-nien, made it quite clear that the main object of the tour was to draw the socialist countries of Eastern Europe into the wake of Peking's anti-Soviet and anti-socialist policy course. The French newspaper LE MATIN voiced an opinion that Hua Kuo-feng will try to incline the partners of his talks to set up a military alliance in the Balkans so as to turn that part of the world into a gunpowder keg.

Hua's very first speech in Bucharest fully confirmed those forecasts. He sharply attacked the process of relaxation of international tensions and reiterated the notorious Maoist concept of the alleged inevitability of a new world war. He actually called upon Romania to break off its relations with the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community. All those calls of the Chinese leader, however, found no response.

In his reply speech, the general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, President Nicolae Ceausescu, said Romania consistently pursued a policy course of cooperation and fraternal friendship with the socialist countries. The reply speech contained a veiled criticism of the stand taken by the Chinese leadership. The Romanian president called upon China to join the struggle for relaxation of international tensions and for promoting disarmament.

China is known to be the main initiator of the dangerous arms race and spends about 50 percent of its state budget on armaments.

SHISHLIN COMMENTS ON BREZHNEV'S CRIMEA MEETINGS

LD202218Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 20 Aug 78 LD

[Text] This week in the Crimea, there was a meeting between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. At that meeting, the adherence of both fraternal countries to the policy of detente and improvement of the international situation was confirmed. Here is a news commentary by Nikolay Shishlin, writer on international affairs:

The Crimea meetings are a major event in international life. As is apparent from the communiques published, a broad range of questions is discussed. These concern extending the interaction of the socialist states in the most important spheres of public life and further coordinating their foreign policy activity.

The Crimea meetings provide a complete picture of the present international situation as viewed by the socialist countries, of the tasks they set themselves and of the ways in which they will carry out their foreign policy course. Noting the negative phenomena in international life, the socialist countries in no way proceed from the position, often present in Western press commentaries, that detente is dead.

In the Crimea meetings, it is pointed out that the policy of detente continues to dominate international relations, even though it does come up against many complications. But the essence of the meetings does not boil down, of course, to simply making a statement. The essence of the meetings is that they confirm the consistent course of the socialist states aimed at deepening the relaxation of tension and at merging political detente with military detente. And it is most important that during the Crimea meetings it is noted that countries that adhere to a position of detente and come out in favor of it have great potential for developing broad, mutually advantageous cooperation in the most varied spheres. Of course, this concerns the solution of practical questions such as disarmament, the establishment of mutually advantageous business links and the expansion of cultural cooperation. It also concerns the people's struggle for their inalienable right to self-determination as well as putting an end to interference in the internal affairs of other states.

The Crimea meetings are thus new proofs of the implementation of the socialist states' peace policy, of the program adopted by the 25th CPSU Congress and of the foreign policy aspirations that are characteristic of the communist and workers parties.

FURTHER REACTION, COMMENTARY ON CAMP DAVID TALKS

Moscow Seeks Geneva Conference

LD192240Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 19 Aug LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Summary] At the beginning of next month, a new round of the Egyptian-Israeli separate talks will take place with the participation of the United States. The majority of international commentators are unanimous in identifying the reason for upgrading the level of the meeting. They see it as part of Washington's endeavors to save Cairo's capitulatory line at any price. "The New York TIMES points out frankly that Carter has decided to hold the meeting of the leaders of the three states, but realistically does not hope to reach any part of a peaceful settlement. The paper says that the U.S. administration believes that As-Sadat has placed himself in a deteriorating and desperate situation. He has isolated himself politically from the larger part of the Arab world, has severed relations with his main supplier of arms--the Soviet Union--and is in dire need of some diplomatic success in the dangerous game he started 9 months ago."

The majority of people in the Arab world have found the so-called American mediation in the talk ineffective. The Syrian paper AL-BA'TH, for instance, says that the Camp David meeting will not achieve positive results. It may lead to a new impasse.

Waldheim has expressed his doubts about the prospects of the tripartite meeting.

The Israelis have also indicated their stance toward the new round: On 4 August, Dayan, Israeli foreign minister, said that if Egypt insisted on Israel's withdrawal from occupied Arab lands, he would advise his government not to conclude any agreement. In an even clearer statement the Israeli minister of agriculture, Sharon, said that Egypt should not expect any concessions from Israel. Furthermore, the Israeli Government has not announced the cancellation of its plans for new settlements although it has postponed its program pending the Camp David meeting.

The Egyptian leadership is hoping that Washington will put pressure on Israel. But such a hope is just a fantasy. For the statements made by U.S. statesmen show that the United States will not exert such pressure. The Washington POST says in its 15 August edition: The Carter administration has stressed to Israel that it will not link the result of the forthcoming summit conference with rendering military and economic aid to Israel in the future. In the meantime, it is no secret that the United States and Israel will use the Camp David talks to try to obtain more concessions from the Egyptian president so as to reach a compromise. American military aid to Egypt may be one form of such pressure. It is no coincidence that the word is currently being spread in Washington that the U.S. Congress will likely reconsider the sale of F-5 aircraft to Egypt if As-Sadat does not show enough flexibility. They are referring to the questions of the occupied territories and the Palestine issue.

"All this confirms that the intentions and stances of those participating in the tripartite meeting in Camp David do not coincide in the least with the establishment of a real, just and firm peace in the Middle East."

"One should point out that the ways and means of solving the Middle East issue are well-known. They have been mentioned more than once in the official statements of the African states and the Soviet Union."

"A few days ago, UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim mentioned it anew. By this we mean the resumption of the Geneva conference on peace in the Middle East as soon as possible with the participation of all parties concerned, including the legitimate representatives of the Palestinian Arab people in the person of the PLO."

Al-Asad: Camp David 'New Trap'

LD182114Y Moscow TASS in English 2058 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, August 18, TASS--Middle East settlement is a very complex problem which should be solved within the framework of the United Nations and the Geneva peace conference, President Hafiz al-Asad of the Syrian Arab Republic said before pressmen in the city of Latakia. The Syrian president expressed doubt that the tripartite American-Egyptian-Israeli talks, to be held in Camp David in September, would produce any positive results. These talks, he stressed, will be a new trap for the Arabs and will not facilitate a settlement of the Middle East problem.

EGYPTIAN ECONOMY SAID TO BE IN 'GRAVE CRISIS'

LD192242Y Moscow TASS in English 2032 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, August 19, TASS--The Egyptian economy is living through a grave crisis.

This can be seen from the country's growing dependence on foreign states, above all on the USA and other Western powers and also on Saudi Arabia and petroleum extracting Arab countries. Egypt's foreign debt has now run into a huge sum of 12 billion dollars. The Cairo press admits that only the paying of percentage on the loans amounts to hundreds of millions of dollars a year.

Contrary to assurances of officials, Egypt has no chances of overcoming the crisis in the years ahead. For instance, Egypt's new five-year plan of economic development will be financed to almost 60 percent through "aid" from so-called "foreign friends", which will result in the still greater dependence of Egypt's economy. The government lacks funds for developing new farming lands which is extremely necessary in the conditions of the aggravating food crisis.

One of the main reasons for the long-drawn-out economic "illness" of Egypt is the policy of "open doors" to local and foreign capital that has been conducted by the Egyptian leaders over the recent years. It was manifested, above all, in the lessening of state control over import where the private sector actually holds the sway. These disastrous measures led inevitably to the unprecedented increase of the trading balance deficit, to high rates of inflation that surpassed 25 per cent and the growth of the cost of living.

This short-sighted policy is a heavy burden on the Egyptian working people, nine tenths of whom, as the newspaper AL-AHRAR wrote, can be described as poor.

MOSCOW: WAFA ACCUSES CIA, ISRAEL OF BEIRUT EXPLOSION

LD181702Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1230 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "More Revelations About the Perpetrators of the Beirut Explosion"]

[Excerpts] WAFA reports that a special committee composed of Fatah representatives, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], the Palestine liberation army and PLO technical experts are investigating the causes of the explosion in the building which housed the PFLP's headquarters in Beirut.

The number of victims has risen to 125, of whom 26 were children. It is worth noting that these figures are not final, and although investigations are not yet completed, the available information indicates that this destructive operation was prepared by agents of the CIA and the Israeli intelligence agency Shin Beth. This is what FILISTIN ATH-THAWRAH, the mouthpiece of the PLO, has said. The paper firmly rejected the claims of Western and Israeli propaganda that the explosion was part of a vendetta being waged by one of the Palestinian organizations.

Israel and the CIA spread these rumors in order to divert suspicion away from themselves. FILISTIN ATH-THAWRAH goes on to say that the purpose of this ugly crime was to sow the seeds of division among the various organizations grouped under the banner of the resistance movement.

The horror of this destructive act indicates that Tel Aviv and its protectors overseas do not hesitate to commit any kind of crime, however horrible, in order to achieve their anti-Palestinian aims. Tel Aviv and Washington spare no effort and release a flood of words in order to convince world public opinion that the PLO and the resistance movement are merely terrorist organizations and should not be recognized.

(?How hypocritical) people must be to mistake the innocent for the guilty and to attribute their own shortcomings and maliciousness to others. It is no secret that Tel Aviv has practiced terror in its policy, not only within its own borders but also in occupied Arab territory and in sovereign neighboring Arab states.

It is impossible not to note the timing of the decision to commit a new crime against the Palestinians. It was committed on the eve of the new round of separatist talks involving the Americans, the Israelis and the Egyptians at Camp David. No one doubts any longer that what is happening is a form of collusion against the Arabs, for the principal purpose of striking at the just cause of the Palestinians. Neither Washington, Tel Aviv nor Cairo try to disguise their intention to determine the future of the Palestinians--if that is the right expression--behind the backs of the Palestinians, behind the cloak of a solution to the Middle East problem.

At this point we must ask the following question: Was not the crime committed in Beirut perpetrated to soil the reputation of the PLO, and at the same time to justify the perpetrators refusal to recognize the sole, universally recognized representative of the Palestinian people?

TASS: ISRAEL CONTINUES POLICY OF ARBITRARY RULE

LD201213Y Moscow TASS in English 1122 GMT 20 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, August 20, TASS--The Israeli authorities are continuing their policy of police arbitrary rule in the occupied Arab territories. According to a report of the WAFA agency, in June this year alone more than 150 Arabs were arrested there on the cliche charge of membership in various contingents of the Palestine resistance movement and disobeying the occupation authorities. They were sentenced to a total of 600 years in prison. Some of them were jailed for life.

Some 5,000 Palestinians are now languishing in the Israeli jails, a large number of them being teenagers, disabled and seriously ill persons. The committee for the defence of the Palestinians languishing in the Israeli prisons issued a statement here saying that the life of many prisoners is in danger. More than 50 people have already died from tortures.

Prisoners answer the brutalities of prison wards with organized protests. Mass unrest of the Arabs has been continuing in Israeli prisons since the beginning of the year. Striving to break their growing resistance, the Israeli authorities transfer hundreds of Arab prisoners from one jail to another, put them in punishment cells and subject to cruel beating and cynical violation of human dignity.

JORDAN'S AMBASSADOR TO USSR PRAISES MUTUAL RELATIONS

LD192052Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Speech by Hani al-Khasawinah, Jordan's ambassador to the USSR, on 19 August on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations with the USSR--recorded]

[Summary] The 15th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Jordan and the USSR comes at this time.

"When these relations were first established, they constituted objective expression of the depth of Soviet-Arab relations. These relations derived their strength, warmth and importance from the Soviet attitude toward the liberation causes of the Arab nation, at the forefront of which was the Palestinian cause.

"Fortunately, since their establishment, Soviet-Jordanian relations have been characterized by sustained development in the economic, cultural, political, tourist and educational sectors. At the political level, Jordan and the USSR share identical attitudes on a wide range of international issues, and especially the so-called Middle East crisis. The Soviet and Jordanian attitudes on this issue are identical, and are based on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 242.

"As regards other international issues, both countries base their relations on noninterference in the internal affairs of their respective states and on respect for the independence and sovereignty of all states, irrespective of their size, the size of their populations or the extent of the country. They oppose racial discrimination, colonialism and all forms of exploitation.

"Also on the political level, these relations have been highlighted by two important visits paid by His Majesty King Husayn to the USSR. The first came following the 1967 Israeli aggression and the second was 2 years ago. During these visits, important and comprehensive talks were held between the Jordanian and Soviet leaders on their common attitudes toward the issue of the Israeli-Arab conflict. They were characterized by the signing of a number of cooperation agreements in the fields of oil prospecting, the electrification of part of the Jordanian countryside and the establishment of several vocational training centers in Jordan.

"I am fortunate to be my country's third or fourth ambassador to the USSR, and I came with clear instructions from the political leadership in Jordan to develop these relations and implement these projects. This is at the political and the economic levels."

At the tourism level, thousands of Jordanians visit the USSR. At the cultural level, a number of Soviet artists, singers and journalists have visited Jordan.

"We have about 1,000 Jordanian students in the USSR studying medicine and engineering in accordance with a cultural cooperation agreement signed by both countries."

The Jordanian people, like other Arabs, are eager to maintain Soviet-Jordanian friendship and to expand cooperation between the two countries in the interests of their peoples.

I am confident that Soviet-Jordanian relations will continue to develop.

Shkrdalov Commentary

LD191240Y Moscow TASS in English 1150 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, August 19, TASS--TASS commentator Aleksandr Shkrdalov reports:

It will be fifteen years on August 20 since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Jordan. Substantial progress has been made over these years in the development of multilateral cooperation between the two countries. Soviet-Jordanian relations have always been built along the principles of equality, mutual respect and non-interference in each other's international affairs. Our countries have concluded and are successfully implementing numerous agreements in the fields of trade, economic and technical cooperation as well as cultural exchanges. A new step in bilateral economic relations has been the understanding, according to which the Soviet Union will give assistance to Jordan in prospecting for oil, construction of power transmission lines and establishment of vocational training centers.

In great demand in Jordan are Soviet-made high quality industrial products, including machine-tools, miscellaneous equipment, machinery, TV sets and textiles.

Ties between the Soviet and Jordanian trade unions, women's and other public organizations are permanently strengthening. Cultural cooperation, which is an inseparable part of bilateral relations, is also successfully developing. The guest tours of the country by Soviet artists and musicians are always a great success. Soviet films and books enjoy invariable popularity in Jordan. Hundreds of Jordanian students are under training at Soviet higher educational establishments within the framework of the programme for culture cooperation.

The Soviet Union firmly and undeviatingly supports the just demands of the Arab peoples throughout the whole period of their struggle for independence, the Amman newspaper AL-AKHBAR notes in its article devoted to the anniversary of establishment of Soviet-Jordanian diplomatic relations. The Jordanian Government has repeatedly most highly evaluated the support given by the USSR to the Arab peoples in their efforts for the elimination of the consequences of the Israeli aggression, the newspaper stressed.

The Soviet people has always been and remains a sincere friend of the people of Jordan. Our countries have great opportunities for a further development of mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation.

TASS REPORTS ON 'COMPLEX' SITUATION IN LEBANON

LD191908Y Moscow TASS in English 1814 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, August 19, TASS--TASS correspondent A. Ostalskiy reports:

The political situation in Lebanon remains complex. The attempts of the government and of the command of the inter-Arab peace keeping force to stabilize the situation meet with stiff resistance on the part of theconservative right-wing Christian armed groups. The commander of the inter-Arab force said that the actions of these armed groups disrupt the implementation of the plan to ensure security in the eastern part of the Lebanese capital, which stipulates removal of the conservative forces from the streets of the city. In Al-Ashrafiyah, Furn ash-Shubbak and other districts of eastern Beirut military preparations continue.

The situation also remains complex in the Beirut port, the chief transport hub of the country, which remains closed during the last one and a half months. The attempts of the authorities to resume its full operation have been a failure.

The central problem remains that of the situation in southern Lebanon which is controlled by the armed units of the right-wing Christian forces supported by Israel. This problem will be discussed by Brian Urquhart, the U.N. under-secretary general for special political affairs, who has arrived in Lebanon and the leaders of the republic

The provisional U.N. force in Lebanon has so far been unable to achieve implementation of the Security Council resolution providing for the restoration of the republic's sovereignty over its southern regions, since the right-wing Christian forces and Israel obstruct the deployment there of the units of the regular Lebanese Army.

Israel and its supporters in Lebanon continue their armed provocations in the border regions. The conservative forces are consolidating their positions and patrolling the regions where the U.N. force units are deployed. The settlement of Hasbaya was once again the target for shelling.

Israeli aircraft daily fly over the southern regions of the country while its gunboats violate the Lebanese territorial waters.

'ARAFAT CHAIRS MEETING OF PALESTINIANS IN BEIRUT

LD181205Y Moscow TASS in English 1050 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, August 18, TASS--A meeting of the leadership of the Palestinian resistance movement and the national patriotic forces of Lebanon was held here. It was presided over by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The meeting discussed the situation in the country and drafted measures to counter subversive activity by the Israeli-backed internal reaction.

TASS CITES TISHRIN ON SYRIA'S LINE IN MIDDLE EAST

LD181720Y Moscow TASS in English 1558 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, August 18, TASS--The Syrian press exposes the intrigues and plots of imperialism against the Arab peoples. The Western imperialist circles, striving to split the Arab countries, are using all means for bringing economic, political, military and psychological pressure to bear on the Arab government, writes the newspaper TISHRIN. Syria is pursuing a firm and principled political line. It resolutely opposes the conspiracies and acts of political sabotage by imperialism and the forces of reaction. Syria condemns As-Sadat's separatist policy that is dangerous to the Arab world.

IZVESTIYA PANEL HITS NATO'S 'DESTABILIZATION' OF AFRICA

LD181313Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Aug 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[IZVESTIYA "Round Table" entitled "Who Is Destabilizing Africa?"]

[Text] Africa occupies one of the most prominent places in the kaleidoscope of international problems and events. The situation in that continent was discussed at the Khartoum session of the OAU assembly and at the Belgrade conference of foreign ministers of the nonalined countries. These forums and the bilateral talks between Angola and Zaire, for instance, have found certain approaches toward the easing of tension.

At the same time, the acuteness of the African situation has not been removed. There is no peace in the Horn of Africa where Somalia, with Western aid, is preparing a new act of aggression. There is no peace in the southern part of the continent where Rhodesia has again attacked Mozambique. In Britain plans are being developed to bring an airborne landing force to Rhodesia. Imperialism's interference in African affairs is not ceasing. Nor is it ending its attempts to depict its "new policy" in Africa as Africa's "salvation: from the "Soviet-Cuban threat."

The Presidium of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries and the Institute of Africa of the USSR Academy of Sciences recently invited a group of eminent Soviet scholars and public figures to prepare a comprehensive analysis of recent events in Africa. Academician Ye. M. Zhukov, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of General History; Prof A.A. Gromyko, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Africa; N.N. Sofinskiy, USSR deputy minister of higher and secondary specialized education; A.S. Dzasokhov, first deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries; V.N. Sofinskiy, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Department; and I.R. Grigulevich, chief editor of the journal OBSHCHESTVENNYYE NAUKI, took part in this "round table" meeting.

Having reviewed the historical, political, economic and other aspects of the situation in Africa, those taking part in the discussion came to the conclusion that the countries and peoples of the continent are now faced with an extensive new conspiracy hatched by the imperialist powers and monopolies.

Fragments of the old colonial empires remain only in the southern parts of Africa, but here too the liquidation of colonial-racist regimes is inevitable.

With the years the direct link between the elimination of these illegal regimes, condemned in the United Nations, and a solution to the fundamental problem of our time--the problem of war and peace--is increasingly emerging. The active arming of the racists of the Republic of South Africa and their policy of apartheid and aggression are turning this country into one of the main sources of international tension and conflict. The NATO powers are making this situation increasingly dangerous by helping the Republic of South Africa in the development of technology for the production of nuclear weapons. The West's present diplomatic activity involving a "peaceful settlement" of the problems of southern Africa is designed primarily to preserve and consolidate the political and economic positions of the imperialist powers and monopolies in the region.

Important political and socioeconomic changes are taking place in free Africa, and the number of young states embarking on a path of socialist orientation is steadily growing. Free Africa as a whole has taken a fitting place in the world arena.

The offensive of the forces of national and social liberation against the positions of imperialism, colonialism and racism in Africa is continuing. But, in defiance of objective historical laws, the imperialist powers and monopolies are delaying Africa's national and social liberation.

What are the specific features of the NATO countries' so-called "new policy" and above all of this bloc's main strike force--the United States--in Africa? These features consist of a colossal and comprehensive buildup of imperialist efforts to undermine the liberation struggle of the African countries and peoples, and an effort to split Africa's anti-imperialist unity and artificially stoke international tension in the continent and around it. The United States and its NATO allies did not even stop at the complete restoration in Africa the policy of "crisis diplomacy" of the postwar period when the imperialists provoked crisis situations and international conflicts in various parts of the world and then used their armed forces to intervene in them. Essentially, world imperialism is now undertaking its latest counteroffensive against Africa's forces of national and social liberation. The facts attest that its main strike is aimed against the countries of socialist orientation.

The NATO countries' crusade in Africa is presented as Africa's "salvation" from "Soviet penetration." Allegations that the USSR's policy on the continent is the reason for "Africa's destabilization" have become the pivotal point for all propaganda from the West and Peking.

The far-reaching and dangerous imperialist conspiracy against Africa is generating resolute protest and resistance from African countries and peoples. AAPSO and the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries march in the front ranks of the world's progressive forces, rendering support to the anti-imperialist struggle of the African countries and peoples.

The absolute unsoundness of Western propaganda about the Soviet-Cuban "destabilization of Africa" is obvious to every unprejudiced person. There is no Soviet "military threat" to Africa where, as is well known, the USSR is not seeking any benefits or advantages. Who is unaware that the Soviet Union, as was recently reaffirmed by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, "opposes the creation of military blocs and the splitting of African countries into antagonistic groupings, and opposes the stoking of territorial and other disputes inherited from colonial times in Africa?"

The USSR supports in word and deed Africa's anti-imperialist unity and the activity of the OAU, and gives African countries and peoples selfless economic and other forms of aid on a bilateral basis.

One of the most successful directions developing in Soviet aid to African countries is in its training of national cadres of specialists with secondary and higher qualifications. In the last 20 years alone, more than 12,000 Africans have graduated successfully from Soviet educational establishments are now working successfully in their homelands, and a further 12,000-plus students from African countries are now studying in the Soviet Union's VUZes and tekhnikums.

In addition, the Soviet Union contributes in every possible way to the creation and development of national educational systems in many African countries. Educational establishments created with the USSR's assistance in African countries have already turned out thousands of highly skilled specialists. [paragraph continues]

Our party and the Soviet state, L.I. Brezhnev stresses, will continue to "develop comprehensive cooperation with the countries which have achieved national independence and help them develop their economies, train national cadres and combat neocolonialism."

The main reason for the "new policy" toward Africa as profounded by United States and certain of its NATO allies, like the reason for their anti-Soviet ballyhoo, lies in the weakening of the West's position and in the lack of a future for neocolonialism on the African Continent. Hence, the United States and the other NATO countries desire at all costs to restore on the continent a "stability" which would accord with their economic, strategic military and geopolitical calculations.

The dramatic events in Angola, Zaire, the Horn of Africa and the Comoro Islands are by no means a complete list of instances demonstrating just how the imperialists practice the "restoration of stability." The forces of reaction have inspired and supported the creation of "miniblocs" and "inter-African forces" in an attempt to associate at least some African countries with NATO.

The resolute resistance by the majority of African states and the world's progressive forces to this throwback to "crisis diplomacy" by the United States and other NATO countries, and the exposure of the West's anti-Soviet propaganda, have in the last few weeks evoked a certain "lowering of the tone" in the remarks of a number of leaders of the Carter administration. However, the West's capitals are plotting new anti-African and anti-Soviet plans. The danger of armed interference by imperialism in Africa still persists.

This demands constant vigilance and unity by all forces struggling for the total emancipation and social progress of Africa's peoples and for peace and universal security. The OAU assembly session in Khartoum and the Belgrade conference of nonalined countries demonstrated quite unambiguously that most young states are maintaining this anti-imperialist vigilance and rejecting attempts by Western propaganda to distort the foreign policy of the USSR and Cuba.

The hopes of the West and Peking to confuse the question of Africa's friends and enemies and thereby win over the OAU and the nonalined movement are built upon sand. Life itself demonstrates that a further destabilization of Africa by the imperialists is not only failing to save them from defeat but is making that defeat even more profound.

NETO SCORES 'IMPERIALIST ATTACKS' AGAINST USSR, CUBA

LD181838Y Moscow TASS in English 1750 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, August 18, TASS--The forces of imperialism refuse to leave Angola alone. They are making attempts to undermine the cause of the revolution, to destabilize the situation in the country and to thwart the plans made by the first congress of the MPLA-Labor Party, A. Neto, President of the PRA and chairman of the party, said at a meeting in the city of Ngunza.

Imperialism never ceased its attacks against our best friends, the Soviet Union, Cuba, and other socialist countries, and tries to discredit them in the eyes of the world public.

In this way, it tries to mislead our people, to put pressure on them, to make the PRA capitulate and to restore colonialism in our country.

We shall never yield to the pressure of those who are actively coming out against the Soviet Union, a country whose people made the world's first socialist revolution, a country thanks to which large-scale struggle for national liberation and independence has unfolded in the African Continent. We should defend our true and devoted friends and allies, our cooperation with those who are interested in improving the positions of the African peoples.

We should not forget the assistance which was given and is being given to us, at the price of great sacrifices and bloodshed, by our Cuban friends who are discharging their internationalist duty.

The PRA, President Neto said, will continue to give allround assistance to the African peoples who are still oppressed by colonialism and racism.

MOSCOW REPORTS NKOMO, MUGABE, SMITH STATEMENTS

LD191738Y Moscow International Service in English 1300 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Text] The leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, Nkomo and Mugabe, have demanded the speedy transition of power in Rhodesia to the real representatives of the African majority. They made this statement in Lusaka, Zambia, where the front's coordinating committee opened its meeting on Friday. It is discussing the situation in Rhodesia and the stepping up of the struggle for the freedom and independence of the people of Zimbabwe.

Meanwhile, the head of the Rhodesian racists, Ian Smith, let it be understood that his regime is inclined to favor the convening of a conference with the participation of all sides involved in the conflict. At the same time, he ruled out the possibility of disbanding the military and punitive apparatus of the racists during the transition to independence. Observers believe that Smith made this statement hoping to undermine the unity of the liberation forces.

LAWYERS CONDEMNATION OF 'RACIST' REGIMES REPORTED

LD181416Y Moscow TASS in English 1345 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, August 18, TASS--Members of the delegation of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers have come out resolutely against the crimes of the racialist regimes in the Republic of South Africa and in Rhodesia. They are touring the "frontline" states to collect evidence of the aggressive actions perpetrated by the racialist militarists against the independent African states, facts of racialist violence and arbitrariness against the indigenous population.

Addressing a press-conference here, the representatives of the association recounted about the crying lawlessness reigning in the racialist states, adduced numerous evidence of the bloody atrocities committed by the "security" forces of the Pretoria and Salisbury regimes against the civilian population. The testimony of eyewitnesses, they pointed out, produce a horrible picture of racialist crimes against the peoples of South Africa.

The lawyers accused the Smith regime and its puppets of staging this June a bloody massacre of twelve white missionaries in Umtali District. This act, they stressed, was carried out by members of punitive detachments, clad in guerrilla uniform, for the purpose of discrediting the country's national-liberation movement. The lawyers adduced the testimony of one of the participants of this crime, who was later captured by the guerrillas.

The representatives of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers went on record for the organization of a permanent committee of lawyers to look in the crimes of the racialist regimes. They stressed that the armed struggle waged by the peoples of southern Africa was the only means of wiping apartheid and racial discrimination off the African Continent.

USSR, KENYA SIGN CULTURAL SCIENTIFIC ACCORD

LD202148Y Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 20 Aug 78 LD

[Text] The Soviet Union and Kenya have signed in Nairobi a plan for cultural and scientific cooperation (?carried out) this year and the next. Our observer makes these remarks:

The plan envisages a whole lot of cultural, scientific and sports exchanges. The Soviet Union is to grant 70 scholarships to Kenyan students and post-graduate students on government exchange level alone. The scholarships, to be given this and the next year, will enable Kenyan boys and girls to study at Soviet schools of higher and specialized secondary learning. There are plans for two delegations of Kenyan writers and a delegation of journalists to visit the Soviet Union to familiarize themselves with the activities of their Soviet counterparts. The unions of Soviet writers and of journalists will be playing host to them.

The Kenyan Ministry for Information and Radio Broadcasting is to send its own delegation for a closer look at Soviet life. Apart from that, the plan signed in Nairobi provides for a show of paintings--"Africa Though the Eyes of Soviet Artists"--to be arranged in Nairobi and Mombasa late next year. Before that Kenyans will be able to see Soviet films, to attend concerts by two different groups of Soviet singers and musicians and to see the Soviet circus.

The Soviet music publishers Meoldiya, to promote Kenyan national music in the USSR, are sending their representatives over to Kenya to select and record the best pieces. The delegations of Soviet writers and a group of journalists are to go to that African country on sightseeing and lecture tours. In the line of sports, the plan for 1978 through 1979 envisages a visit of Kenyan track-and-field men to the Soviet Union and a return visit by a team of Soviet football players. A long-term plan for Soviet-Kenyan culture and scientific exchanges covers contacts in the fields of education, health protection and cooperative movement.

Speaking at the signing ceremony in Nairobi, the Kenyan foreign minister, Munyua Waiyaki, said the plan for scientific and cultural cooperation laid a solid legal and general basis for a fruitful [word indistinct] of exchanges in the corresponding spheres.

SOUTH ASIA

BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN CONGRATULATE, GREET INDIAN LEADERS

LD181349Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Aug 78 p 1 LD

[Text] To His Excellency Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, president of the Republic of India

His xcellency Morarji Desai, prime minister of the Republic of India

Personally and on behalf of the Soviet people, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Government, we cordially congratulate you, the Government and the friendly Indian people on the 31st anniversary of independence day.

The three decades of India's independent development have provided graphic evidence of the Indian people's considerable achievements in the economic and cultural building of their country. We wish the great people of India great new successes in the struggle to strengthen national independence and for social progress. India now rightly occupies a worthy place in the world arena, plays an active role in the movement of nonalined states and enjoys solid international authority, pursuing a policy of peace, detente and support for the legitimate rights of the peoples waging the struggle for their national liberation, against the forces of aggression and oppression.

These same aims are also served by the stable development of Soviet-Indian relations, which are firmly based on the Peace, Friendship and Cooperation Treaty, the seventh anniversary of which fell on 9 August. The treaty meets the fundamental interests of the peoples of our countries and is an important and effective factor in the strengthening of peace in Asia and throughout the world. We express firm confidence that the friendly relations between the Soviet Union and India will continue to strengthen and develop for the good of the peoples of our countries and in the name of world peace and international security. We wish you and the entire Indian people further successes, prosperity and happiness.

[Signed] L. Brezhnev, A. Kosygin.

Moscow Reception

LD181347Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Aug 78 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--On 15 August, I.K. Gujral, Indian ambassador to the USSR, held a reception to mark the 31st anniversary of India's independence. The reception was attended by K. A. Khalilov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, I.V. Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR ministers and other officials.

Khalilov, Arkhipov Attend Meeting

LD181345Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Aug 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "May Friendship Strengthen"]

[Text] The Soviet-Indian friendship month is continuing in the Soviet Union. A meeting devoted to the seventh anniversary of the Peace, Friendship and Cooperation Treaty between the USSR and India and the 31st anniversary of India's independence was held in Moscow 14 August.

Participating in the meeting were K.A. Khalilov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; I.V. Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and a delegation of Indian members of Parliament and leaders of the Indian-Soviet Cultural Society headed by R.K. Hegde, general secretary of the Janata Party.

Speeches by representatives of the Soviet public pointed out that the Soviet people nurture feelings of profound sympathy and solidarity for the efforts of the industrious Indian people aimed at resolving tasks of the country's economic, social and cultural development. Our countries' friendship is steadily strengthening and developing.

I.K. Gujral, Indian ambassador to the USSR, emphasized that the traditional friendly relations between India and the USSR are developing successfully on the basis of the Peace, Friendship and Cooperation Treaty and in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and the cause of peace and security in Asia and throughout the world. He expressed gratitude to the Soviet people for their effective aid to his country in forming the national economy.

Indian Parliamentary Visit

LD181330Y Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Kuznetsov, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received in the Kremlin today a delegation of members of the Indian Parliament and leaders of the Indian-Soviet Cultural Society, headed by Hegde, general secretary of the Janata Party. The delegation is taking part in a month of Soviet-Indian friendship devoted to the seventh anniversary of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and India and the 31st anniversary of India's independence.

During their friendly and cordial conversation, the mutual aspiration further to strengthen relations and all-round cooperation between the USSR and India was expressed, and the importance of their development in the interests of the peoples of both countries, the cause of peace and security in Asia and throughout the world was emphasized.

Mazurov Meets Indian Legislators

LD182106Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Mazurov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received a delegation of Indian parliamentary members and leaders of the Indian-Soviet Cultural Society headed by Hedge, secretary general of the Janata Party. The delegation is in the country in connection with the month of Soviet-Indian friendship dedicated to the seventh anniversary of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation between the two countries and the 31st anniversary of India's independence.

During the talks, questions of friendly Soviet-Indian relations were touched upon and the conviction was expressed that they will develop comprehensively.

INDOCHINA

SRV PRESIDENT RECEIVES ORDER OF OCTOBER REVOLUTION

LD191448Y Moscow International Service in English 1300 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Text] The Presidium of the Soviet parliament has awarded the president of Vietnam, Ton Duc Thang, the Order of the October Revolution. This is in connection with his 90th birthday and his participation in the revolutionary movement and the great contribution he made to developing friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union.

VIETNAMESE TRADE UNION DELEGATION ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

LD192228Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Text] A delegation of Vietnamese trade unions led by Nguyen Van Linh, member of the Politburo, secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Federation of Trade Unions, arrived on a friendly visit in the USSR today at the invitation of the AUCCTU.

SRV PROTESTS NCNA DISTORTION OF HUACHIAO ISSUE

LD191128Y Moscow TASS in English 1053 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, August 19, TASS--The Press Department of the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam made a representation to head of the HSINHUA agency office in Hanoi, warning and demanding that the HSINHUA correspondents end sending deliberately false reports. These reports, the representation says, are poisoning the atmosphere of the Vietnamese-Chinese talks currently underway in Hanoi on the questions of persons of Chinese nationality resident in Vietnam.

As the VIETNAMESE NEWS AGENCY notes, the HSINHUA correspondents repeatedly supplied information distorting the truth about the situation in Hanoi and in the country, reports of a slanderous character insulting representatives of the Vietnamese authorities. They also violated the rules established for foreign correspondents accredited in Vietnam.

VNA REPORT ON SRV-PRC TALKS INDICATES NO PROGRESS

LD201744Y Moscow TASS in English 1733 GMT 20 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, August 20, TASS--A report of the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY on the third meeting at the talks between the government delegations of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV] and the PRC about persons of the Chinese nationality residing in Vietnam was circulated here.

The head of the Vietnamese delegation, Deputy Foreign Minister of the SRV Hoang Bich Son, according to the report, said this: The priority task now is to decide the question of persons of the Chinese nationality who gathered at check points at the Vietnamese-Chinese border. At the latest meeting, the head of the Chinese delegation said that the Chinese side will welcome return of these people to their former residence in Vietnam. But the Chinese side so far has not stopped inciting these people to remain at the border.

Hoang Bich Son suggested to the Chinese delegation to make a joint call to persons of the Chinese nationality "to return to their former residence to continue normal life and work".

But as the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY reports, the Chinese side did not answer this proposal of the delegation of the SRV.

Speaking at the meeting, the head of the Chinese delegation, Chung Hsi-tung, repeated old slanderous allegations about Vietnam's position in the question of persons of the Chinese nationality and made a number of absurd demands to the SRV clearly with the aim of creating new difficulties for Vietnam.

The stand of the Chines side, the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY writes, shows again that persons of the Chinese nationality are used as an instrument for the implementation of perfidious and dangerous designs.

SRV DEVELOPS DESPITE CHINESE INTERFERENCE

LD191806Y Moscow International Service in English 1300 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Hanoi correspondent Leonid Krichevskiy's report on the 33d anniversary of the August revolution in Vietnam]

[Summary] An important factor in the victory of the Vietnamese revolution was the defeat by the Soviet Army of German fascism and Japanese militarism. According to Ho Chi Minh, the August revolution in Vietnam was the first victorious national democratic revolution in Southeast Asia. A difficult struggle to safeguard the gains of the revolution lasted for almost 30 years. During the ensuing years of peace the Vietnamese have made substantial headway in building socialism.

"This anniversary of the revolution, however, is being marked in a complex situation, caused by the provocatory actions of the Peking authorities. As is known, in the past few months Peking has been conducting a vicious anti-Vietnamese campaign." China has stopped all economic and technical aid to Vietnam and has recalled its specialists. Provocations on the Vietnamese border follow one after the other. The Chinese link their actions with the so-called issue of ethnic Chinese living in Vietnam.

"In actual fact, Peking's policy is spearheaded against the independent course of Vietnam in domestic and foreign policy. The Chinese authorities are intensifying provocatory actions against Socialist Vietnam. This is why it is underlined in a statement issued by the Secretariat of the Vietnamese Communist Party's Central Committee for the anniversary of the revolution and for the proclamation of Vietnam's independence that as they mark these anniversaries the Vietnamese people must make every effort to build socialism, to defend their socialist country. This just cause of the Vietnamese people has the support of the Soviet Union, of other socialist countries, of all people who cherish justice, peace and freedom on earth."

JAPANESE POSITION TOWARD SOVIET UNION EXAMINED

LD181539Y Moscow TASS in English 1520 GMT 18 Aug 78 LD

["Around Japan's Treaty With China"--TASS headline]

[Text] Tokyo, August 18, TASS--In connection with the "Treaty of Peace and Friendship between Japan and the People's Republic of China", signed the other day in Peking, the Japanese public circles, press and several political leaders, including some from the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party, express grave concern over the after-effects of this treaty on the development of the international situation, primarily, in Asia.

These apprehensions are connected, primarily, with the fact that the generally warlike foreign policy of Peking, as well as statements by official Chinese representatives concerning the treaty, including their interpretation of Article Two as being spearheaded against the Soviet Union, create a concrete danger that the new treaty might to used to aggravate the international situation in Asia to the detriment of the security of the states bordering on Japan, and might put in question the fundamental principles of Japan's foreign policy.

In recent days, the Japanese leaders have made several statements explaining Japan's position, stressing that Japan intends to continue the line of developing its relations with the Soviet Union. Thus, as reported by the KYODO TSUSHIN agency, Foreign Minister S. Sonoda stated upon his return from Peking that the signed treaty was not hostile to the Soviet Union. He stressed the imperative need of exerting efforts to improve Japanese-Soviet relations. S. Sonoda, according to the SANKEI SHIMBUN, stated that "Japan is pursuing an independent foreign policy" and "will not counteract to the Soviet Union in alliance with China."

The KYODO TSUSHIN reported that the prime minister of Japan, T. Fukuda, "instructed the recently appointed ambassador to the USSR, T. Uomoto, to promote the strengthening of Japanese-Soviet friendship" and said that "Japan attaches great importance to the relations with the Soviet Union."

It remains to be seen in what measure these statements will be translated into concrete deeds in the policy of the Japanese Government.

BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN GREET DPRK LEADERS ON ANNIVERSARY

LD181209Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Aug 78 p 1 LD

[Text] To Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Korean Workers Party [KWP] Central Committee and president of the DPRK;

Comrade Yi Chong-ok, premier of the DPRK Administration Council;

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers and the entire Soviet people we sincerely congratulate you, the KWP Central Committee, the DPRK Central People's Committee, the DPRK Administration Council and all Korean working people on the 33d anniversary of Korea's liberation.

The date 15 August 1945 has firmly entered the history of our peoples and their fraternal friendship. On that memorable day, the Soviet Army completed the defeat of aggressive Japanese forces in Korea and thereby helped the Korean people, who had been struggling selflessly for their national liberation, to gain freedom and independence.

The historic events of 1945 opened before the Korean people the prospect of building a new life free from all forms of exploitation and oppression. In the period that has elapsed since liberation, major socioeconomic transformations have been implemented in the north of the country under the leadership of the KWP and have provided broad scope for the creative energy of the industrious Korean people and for the upsurge of the economy, culture and the people's well-being.

The Soviet people treat with a feeling of profound international solidarity the Korean people's struggle for the immediate and complete withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea and the creation of favorable conditions for the country's peaceful democratic unification. We unfailingly support the Korean people's legitimate right to decide the fate of their nation independently, without interference from external forces.

We express confidence that the relations of firm friendship and cooperation between our parties, states and peoples will enjoy further development in the interests of socialism and the cause of peace and security in the Far East.

May Soviet-Korean friendship and cooperation, founded on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, strengthen and develop!

[Signed] L. Brezhnev, A. Kosygin.

DPRK Leaders' Messages

LD181211Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Aug 78 p 1 LD

[Text] TASS--On the occasion of the 33d anniversary of Korea's liberation by the Soviet Army, Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Korean Workers Party [KWP] Central Committee and president of the DPRK, has sent a telegram to L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The telegram states: "Personally and on behalf of the KWP Central Committee, the DPRK Government and the Korean people I send to you and, through you, to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Government and the fraternal Soviet people, warm greetings on the 33d anniversary of the Korean people's 15 August liberation from the colonial rule of Japanese imperialism.

"The 15 August liberation was a crucial event in the history of our people and opened up a broad path toward the creation of a new life. Since liberation, the Korean people, under the leadership of our party, having removed the consequences of colonial rule, have energetically advanced along the path of socialism and thereby turned our once backward country into a mighty, socialist, sovereign and independent state in a short time.

"Today the Korean people are mounting an indefatigably stubborn struggle to achieve the complete victory of socialism in our country, to frustrate the machinations of internal and external splittists for the fabrication of 'two Koreas' and their inflammatory intrigues, and to accelerate the motherland's independent, peaceful unification.

"The Korean people value the relations of friendship and cooperation with the fraternal Soviet people that have firmly developed during the struggle against imperialism and for the triumph of the great cause of socialism. They express confidence that these traditional relations will continue to strengthen and develop in various spheres. I take this opportunity to wholeheartedly wish you and the fraternal Soviet people further new successes in the struggle to fulfill the 10th 5-Year Plan outlined by the 25th CPSU Congress."

A.N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has received the following telegram from Yi Chong-ok, premier of the DPRK Administration Council:

"I send you warm greetings on the 33d anniversary of the Korean people's 15 August liberation from the colonial rule of Japanese imperialism.

"The Korean people value the fraternal friendship between the peoples of the two countries--Korea and the Soviet Union--which has developed during the struggle against imperialism and for the triumph of the great cause of socialism.

"I take this opportunity to express confidence that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries will still further continue to strengthen and develop in various spheres, and I wholeheartedly wish you still greater successes in your responsible work in the name of the country's prosperity and development."

PYONGYANG CEREMONY HONORS SOVIET SERVICEMEN

LD181333Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Aug 78 p 4 LD

[Text] Pyongyang, 15 August, TASS--A wreath-laying ceremony at the "liberation" monument erected in the DPRK capital in honor of Soviet Army servicemen was held here today to mark the 33d anniversary of Korea's liberation by the Soviet Army.

"To the heroic Soviet Army" were the words on the wreath laid on behalf of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee. Wreaths were also laid on behalf of the DPRK Central People's Committee, the DPRK State Administration Council, the Korean People's Army and DPRK state and public organizations.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA CITES KIM IL-SONG ON USSR TIES

LD181155Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Aug 78 p 3 LD

[M. Kretov article: "Along the Road of Creation"]

[Text] The majestic liberation obelisk rises in the center of the DPRK capital, on Moran-Bong Mountain. Carved into the granite of the monument, in Korean and Russian, are the words: "The Great Soviet people defeated the Japanese imperialists and liberated the Korean people. The blood shed by Soviet soldiers during Korea's liberation strengthened still further the ties of friendship between the Korean and Soviet peoples. This monument has been erected as a token of the gratitude of the entire people." Monuments and obelisks over the fraternal tombs of Soviet soldiers who gave their lives for the freedom and happiness of the Korean people have been erected in other Korean cities--Unggi, Ch'ongjin, Wonsan. They recall the unforgettable days of August 1945 when, having defeated the main forces of the Japanese militarists, the Soviet Army brought the Korean people salvation from foreign oppression. The date 15 August 1945, when the main forces of the Kwantung Army capitulated under the onslaught of the Soviet troops, was proclaimed a national holiday in Korea. The Korean partisans fought side by side with Soviet soldiers in the battles for the country's freedom.

The DPRK was proclaimed in 1948. Under the leadership of the Korean Workers Party [KWP], the people who had acquired power completely changed the country's appearance. Relying on the aid and support of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, the DPRK working people defended their freedom and independence against the encroachments of the imperialist aggressors and their Seoul puppets, and have rapidly transformed their country from an economically backward land into a developed industrial-agrarian state. The population's material and cultural living standard has improved considerably.

The country's international prestige is constantly growing. The DPRK is an active participant in many international organizations.

Soviet-Korean friendship was further developed after the liberation and was enriched with new content. We note today with satisfaction that the ties of brotherhood between our countries and peoples, based on the principles of socialist internationalism, are producing fruitful results and tangible benefit for our peoples.

Currently, Soviet engineers and workers labor on the renovated land of People's Korea, helping their Korean friends to erect plants, factories and power stations. Over 50 major industrial projects, which comprise the backbone of DPRK industry, have been constructed and modernized with the Soviet Union's technical assistance. They include the Pukch'ang thermal powerstation, the largest in Asia, the Kim Ch'aek metallurgical plant which produces half the steel and one-fourth of the cast iron smelted in the DPRK, and the Pyongyang textile combine, constructed with free aid from our country. The Hungnam mineral fertilizers combine constructed by Soviet and Korean workers is playing an important part in the upsurge of the DPRK's agriculture.

At the same time, Soviet specialists are familiarizing themselves with the achievements and experience of their Korean colleagues in various sectors of industry and agriculture.

Assessing the significance of Soviet-Korean friendship and cooperation, Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the KWP Central Committee and president of the DPRK, said: "The Soviet Union is our people's liberator and greatest friend. Whenever our people have encountered difficulties and trials in the struggle for the motherland's freedom and independence and in building the new life, the Soviet people have assisted us and inspired us in the struggle. The friendship and cohesiveness of the peoples of the two countries --Korea and the Soviet Union--born in the fire of liberation battles and consolidated and developed on the common path indicated by the Great Lenin is unshakable, eternal and indestructible."

Socialist building in the DPRK is being carried out under the conditions of Korea's division. One of the obstacles in the path of achieving the reunification of the two parts of the country is the presence of U.S. troops in the south of the Korean Peninsula. Although time has shown convincingly that the presence of U.S. troops in the south of Korea is totally unjustified, the Pentagon is continuing to strengthen its own military potential and is stepping up its aid to Seoul's antipopular puppet regime.

The Korean people are waging a persistent struggle for the country's unification on a peaceful democratic basis without any outside interference. Voicing these aspirations, the DPRK Government has proposed important initiatives aimed at normalizing the situation on the Korean Peninsula. The DPRK's constructive proposals are receiving ever greater support from the world public. The Korean people's just aspirations are close and intelligible to the Soviet people. The USSR's position is firm and unchanged--it has been and will be on the side of socialist Korea, the Korean people and their just cause.

Soviet people and the servicemen of the Soviet Armed Forces warmly congratulate the Korean people on the 33d anniversary of liberation. They wish them new achievements in resolving the tasks of the second 7-year plan for the development of the national economy and successes in the just struggle for Korea's peaceful reunification, and they wish the servicemen of the Korean People's Army further successes in combat and political training in the interests of defending the Korean working people's socialist gains.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

CSSR PAPER INTERVIEWS SOLOMENTSEV ON SIBERIAN DEVELOPMENT

AU1817?0Y Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak on 14 August carries on page 3 a 3,000-word interview with M.S. Solomentsev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, entitled "The Grandiose Program of Siberia's and the Far East's Development."

In the opening part of the interview Solomentsev assesses L.I. Brezhnev's recent visit to Siberia and the Soviet Far East, and stresses the area's importance as a source of raw materials and agricultural products for the Soviet national economy. "The planning and economic bodies are presently elaborating measures focusing on the gradual development of the productive capacity of Siberia and the Far East in the next few years as well as in the more distant future. Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's trip to Siberia and the Far East has become an important impetus for the speedy development of the economy and culture in these regions. His visit inspired the Soviet people to new labor heroism in order to fulfill the party plans and the tasks of the 5-year plan," Solomentsev told PRAVDA.

Elaborating on Siberia's development, Solomentsev says that the fuel industry is being speedily developed in Western Siberia. The volume of all work there will have to be doubled and even trebled. In 1980 Siberia will produce half of all Soviet oil and one-third of the USSR's natural gas. In Tomsk and Tobolsk--the vicinity of the oil and gas fields--the construction of the "biggest oil-chemical" enterprises has already begun. All this, obviously, requires a large investment and additional manpower.

Industry has also been rapidly developing in Kemerovskaya Oblast, an area in which the largest portion of the USSR's coking coal reserves is concentrated. By 1980, coal extraction there is to reach 162 million tons. Iron metallurgy will be further boosted by the expansion of the capacities of the West Siberian metallurgical plant and of the Kuzentsk V.I. Lenin metallurgical combine. Extensive activity is developing in Krasnoyarskiy Kray, whose basin contains an estimated 600 billion tons of coal.

In the 10th 5-Year Plan, Solomentsev says, the first blocs of the Sayansko-Sushenskaya hydroelectric power plant, with the world's largest capacity of 6.4 billion kw, will become operational. The first stage of an oil-processing plant in Anchinsk [as published] is nearing completion. A complex of electrical engineering enterprise is being built in Minusinsk and a railroad car plant in Abakan. An energy-industrial center, based on the exploitation of copper and nickel deposits, is being developed in Norilsk, and in the 10th 5-Year-Plan another enterprise will be added, built on the Nadezhda plateau.

In Irkutskaya Oblast, the Irkutsk-Cheremokhovskiy complex is nearing completion. This complex includes coal extraction, electric power production and the manufacture of aluminium, chemical, engineering and timber products. The extraction of coking coal in the southern part of Yakutiya is also of great importance.

A key task is the construction of the 3,140 kilometers-long Baykal-Amur railroad which will make it possible to begin exploitation of raw material resources in the more distant eastern regions.

Discussing Czechoslovakia's contribution toward the exploitation of Siberia's and the Far East's potential and mineral wealth, Solomentsev says the CSSR has been delivering machinery, installations and consumer goods for the most part. Czechoslovak workers and experts have been directly participating in the construction of some of the projects.

MOSCOW RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 18-20 AUG

LD190600/LD200654/LD210524 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0700 GMT on 18 August reports that harvesting has started in the Tuvinskaya ASSR, adding that despite the dry summer the wheat harvest there is not bad.

At 1100 GMT the radio reports that large scale grain harvesting has started in the Kazakhstan Virgin Lands. Virtually all the rayons of Kustanayskaya and Tselinogradskaya oblasts are reaping grain crops. The southern rayons of Kokchetavskaya and Severo-Kazakhstanskaya oblasts are entering the harvest. Specialists estimate that the harvest here is not bad despite the fact that in many rayons July and the first half of August were very hot. Therefore the grain has ripened considerably earlier. Thus far grain has been reaped into swathes on the first 500,000 hectares in Kustanayskaya Oblast. In Tselinogradskaya Oblast, grain has been reaped on over 100,000 hectares.

The radio adds that the grain growers of the Don region have revised their target to 4.3 million tons of grain. This commitment has already been almost fulfilled. The Kuban will dispatch 4.35 million tons of grain. Volgogradskaya Oblast will dispatch 4 million tons. Uralskaya Oblast in Kazakhstan will dispatch 2 million tons. The Ukraine, which grew a good harvest, plans to deliver no less than 1.05 billion puds of grain to the state.

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0500 GMT on 19 August reports that Orenburgskaya Oblast mechanizers are today completing cutting on the 3d million hectares; threshing rates are increasing in spite of the rainy weather over the last few days. Bashkiriyan farmers are harvesting on the 2d million hectares, involving over 1,300 integrated teams. Tambovskaya Oblast farmers have dispatched 300,000 tons of new grain. In the Non-Chernozem Zone cereals have been harvested on half of the plots sown, in Ryazanskaya Oblast. In Kostromskaya Oblast, the first grain has been dispatched.

At 0200 GMT the radio reports that farms in Novosibirskaya Oblast have threshed grain crops from the first 100,000 hectares; Volgogradskaya Oblast farmers are selling the 4th million ton of grain to the state. An IZVESTIYA correspondent reports that grain harvesting has entered a decisive phase in Bashkiriya. SELSKAYA ZHIZN reviews the important task of fodder procurement: Hay procurement plans are near completion in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. Work rates have risen sharply in Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan.

At 0800 GMT the radio reports that in Kostromskaya Oblast the reception of the new harvest's grain has begun. In Ryazanskaya Oblast half of the sown area of ear crops has been reaped. In Kurskaya Oblast the cutting of bread grain is nearing completion--it has been laid in swathes on an area comprising 85 percent of the entire sown area.

At 1430 GMT the radio reports that in Primorskiy Kray the sowing of winter crops is underway. This year they will occupy an area of about 40,000 hectares, 1.5 times more than last year. At 1445 GMT the radio reports that in Altayskiy Kray harvesting of winter wheat has ended. The main crop, spring wheat, is now being harvested. Plowing of fallow has begun; in August and September, 5 million hectares is to be plowed. At 1550 GMT the radio reports that harvesting of grain has been started by practically all farms in the Kazakh Virgin Lands. Harvesting of eared crops has begun in Kokchetavskaya Oblast. All in all grain will have to be harvested in the Kazakh Virgin Lands on more than 15 million hectares.

At 1600 GMT P. Zabaznyi, noted agronomist of the RSFSR, comments on the course of the harvest: Harvesting is in progress in almost all regions of the country. Grain harvesting is ending in the Ukraine, Rostovskaya Oblast, the lower Volga area, the Central-Chernozem Zone. Harvest rates are increasing daily in Siberia, North Kazakhstan, the Urals, central Volga area and western regions of the country.

At 1900 GMT the radio reports that harvesting in the Ukraine is entering its final stages: 90 percent of the grain has been reaped and threshing is in full swing. On average the threshing is higher than last year's, so the original estimates for grain sales to the state can be overfulfilled by many farms. Mechanizers are now going to help in Kazakhstan. In Orlovskaya Oblast mass harvesting is underway, and soil is being prepared for next year's harvest. Transport of grain is being organized centrally. There is a good yield of barley for beer making in the oblast. The farms are now selling the barley to the state. But how are they selling it? It is going in like ordinary grain, which means that it is being taken from the farms untreated, without being dried, and the kolkhozes are receiving three times less from it than they might. This is not beneficial either to the state or to the farms, but is occurring on quite a large scale. Selective reaping of grains has begun in different rayons of Vologodskaya Oblast. Harvesting has also begun in flax fields.

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0000 GMT on 20 August reports that farmers in Tambov Rayon of Amurskaya Oblast have fulfilled the state plan for grain sales by dispatching over 50,000 tons. The radio adds that the harvest is speeding up in Amurskaya Oblast with 150,000 tons of grain, half of the plan, having already reached the procurement points.

At 0400 GMT the radio, citing SELSKAYA ZHIZN, reports that in Bryanskaya Oblast swathes have been laid in and grain crops threshed on 1,000 hectares. Delivery of grain to the elevators is increasing.

At 0500 GMT the radio reports that in Saratovskaya Oblast the rates of grain sales to the state are growing, with spring wheat now joining the deliveries of winter crops and barley. In Kokchetavskaya Oblast the farmers have started harvesting cereals.

At 0600 GMT the radio reports that in Kurskaya Oblast grain has been reaped on nearly 1 million hectares, or 90 percent of the total area.

At 0700 GMT the radio adds that in Ryazanskaya Oblast grain has been threshed on 500,000 hectares.

At 0900 GMT the radio reports that in the Ukraine the harvest is reaching the final stages with over 15 million hectares harvested. In Khersonskaya Oblast the harvest has ended. It adds that sowing of winter crops will be completed in Altayskiy Kray in the next few days. This fall, the USSR's winter crop area will total more than 41 million hectares.

At 1000 GMT the radio reports that about 10 rayons in Voronezhskaya Oblast have fulfilled their grain plan. Surkhandavinskaya Oblast in Uzbekistan has finished harvesting corn with yields of 10 quintals more than last year from each hectare of irrigated land. The radio adds that in the republic as a whole, corn has been cut from 1/3 of the area sown.

At 1430 GMT the radio reports that the harvest is in full swing on the grain fields of Orenburskaya Oblast, which occupy 5 million hectares, adding that a good harvest has been grown. At 1530 GMT the radio reports that in Uralskaya Oblast in Kazakhstan the workers plan to produce 2 million tons of grain this year--twice the planned amount. Cereals occupy 1.7 million hectares and so far they have been cut on 1.5 million hectares. At 2100 GMT the radio reports that Ukrainian farmers are gathering grain fromthe last million hectares; already more than 14 million hectares of grain crops have been cut in the republic.

IZVESTIYA: HARVEST GATHERS MOMENTUM, BUT FACES PROBLEMS

LD181421Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Aug 78 Morning Edition p 2 LD

[P. Voroshilov agricultural review: "The Broad Frontiers of the Harvest"]

[Excerpts] As reported by the USSR Central Statistical Administration, grain and pulse crops (excluding corn) had been reaped on 50.5 million hectares, or 40 percent of the crop, by 14 August, and the grain had been threshed on an area of 39.3 million hectares. Some 21.3 million hectares had been prepared for winter crops.

The harvest is gathering momentum and decisively extending its frontiers. The busy time has arrived in Belorussia and the Baltic area. The machine operators of West Siberia and the Kazakhstan Virgin Lands, of the Ural district and central regions of the RSFSR have taken their combines out onto the fields. The state's granaries are being filled with choice grain from the Don and the Kuban, the Ukraine and Volga region, Orenburgskaya Oblast and Bashkiria. Whereas during the first week of August grain crops were harvested on an area of 9.2 million hectares, in the second week they were harvested on 12 million hectares.

As the threshing yields show, a rich crop has been grown. The main task now is to gather the harvest swiftly and without losses, and to prepare the grain perfectly for a long period of storage. It is precisely in this decisive sector of the work that the organizing role of the local soviets must be displayed in all full magnitude. Our newspaper reports today that the field workers of Orenburgskaya Oblast have decided to sell 5.5 million tons of grain to the state and to overfulfill not only the targets but also the pledges that were adopted earlier.

This year's big grain harvest has proven a difficult one. It is necessary to harvest the spring and winter crops simultaneously. And the rain is continuing. The weather forecast for the second half of August does not promise many sunny days. This means that even greater flexibility and operation efficiency are necessary in organizing the harvest. In Kustanayskaya Oblast the grain is not ripening evenly on the 4.4 million hectares. This distinctive feature of the harvest toil has been reflected in the harvesting plans drawn up for each farm. But at the basis of all the plans lies the Ipatovskiy method. And this is proving itself. Here the first 100,000 hectares of grain have been reaped. The output per combine is high.

Success under the present conditions is insured precisely by the comprehensive mechanized detachments. Correct action is being taken by those farms that are including specialized links for gathering straw, and also plowing units, in the composition of the mechanized detachments. Today the age-old rule for the grain grower--when the combine leaves the field the plow starts cutting the furrow--is assuming special significance. In many regions the optimal time has arrived for sowing the winter crops. Everything necessary must be done to expand the area allocated to winter crops.

The battle for grain does not end on the field. Motor transport is called upon to insure the uninterrupted work of the combines and the prompt delivery of grain to the elevators. Hundreds of thousands of additional trucks have been sent to rural regions. It is very important to use them with the greatest efficiency.

Unfortunately, things are not going well everywhere. Long lines of trucks loaded with grain are building up at grain reception centers and grain processing centers in Poltavskaya Oblast. The drying facilities at the elevators in Ryazanskaya Oblast were insufficiently prepared for accepting damp grain.

Harvesting grain under inclement weather conditions requires that the rural workers be given good assistance by their patrons--the collectives of industrial enterprises. In Altayskiy Kray, and in Kemerovskaya and Tomskaya oblasts, for instance, the patrons have undertaken some of the work to repair dryers, they are building storage facilities and they have sent to the harvest thousands of workers who have mastered the skills of driving combines and tractors.

Rail transport plays a crucial part in the harvest toil. Its workload is increasing with each passing day. However, it must be admitted that at the moment the railroad workers are not coping with the plan for grain shipments and there are instances of substandard preparation of empty freightcars for loading the grain. It is impossible to accept such facts.

The harvest is approaching on the sugar beet plantations, and serious tests await the farmers here. The state of the beets is good. The farms have received additional equipment: This year 78,000 combines, including 14,000 six-row units, will perform the harvest. More than 13,000 harvesting and transportation detachments have already been created. But they must be manned by machine operators around the clock. In recent years the Ministry of the Food Industry has closed down 250 beet reception centers. As a result, the distance over which the roots must be hauled in some regions has increased to 100-120 km. This hampers highly productive use of motor transport. It is worthwhile to consider opening temporary centers during the harvest period and siting these closer to the beet plantations.

At this time the sunflowers need special tending. It is essential to continue drying the sunflower crop with magnesium chlorate and reglon [presumably a proprietary drying agent]. Because of the late ripening of the sunflowers, the time available for harvesting them has been reduced by 7-8 days. But it is possible to make up for the lost time. In order to do so, the reception centers and processing enterprises must be made ready for the continuous reception of seed and it must be dried round the clock to bring it into peak condition.

Thousands of farms and the vast majority of krays and oblasts have adopted high socialist pledges this year. Honorably fulfilling them means augmenting the motherland's wealth and making a worthy contribution to the cause of further boosting the people's well-being.

KIEV NEWSPAPER EDITORIAL ON VEGETABLE SUPPLY PROBLEM

AU1715334Y Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0550 GMT 17 Aug 78 AU

[RADYANSKA UKRAINA editorial: "The Vegetable Gathering Season"]

[Summary] "The time span between summer and autumn is the most important one in vegetable fields and orchards.

"It is a decisive period for vegetable and fruit procurement. The present season is rather complex because the unfavorable weather conditions have slowed the development of green crops, and have affected the yields of some kinds of vegetables and fruit. Yet one can quote many examples of farmers, in close cooperation with procurement and trade workers seeking to meet the population's needs for vitamin-rich produce to the fullest extent possible.

"Success is primarily attainable where trade in vegetables has been organized such that produce goes straight from the field to the store and where there are no delays in gathering. In Zaporozhskaya, Krymskaya, Lvovskaya and a number of other oblasts the stream of vegetables to the tables of the working people and to processing enterprises is gathering momentum.

"However, because of the complex conditions, vegetable supplies here and there have not been streamlined. The editorial board is receiving signals about significant irregularities occurring in vegetable supplies in Voroshilovgradskaya, Kirovogradskaya, Nikolayevskaya and some other oblasts. The choice of vegetables is too poor on store counters in industrial centers and on restaurant, coffee shop and dining room menus. The customers are not always happy with the condition of the produce offered for sale.

"Such a situation has arisen not as much because of the bad weather as because of the bad organization of labor in vegetable fields, and because of a number of inert farm managers, chiefs of rayon agricultural administrations, procurement center directors and inspectors in charge of the purchases and the quality of farm produce."

"A great deal depends on trade workers. More than 1,600 of the republic's greengrocers, marketing more than half of the total produce, have adopted the progressive self-service method. Quite a few stores deliver vegetables to living quarters and working places. Thus it is very unfortunate that there are irregularities in vegetable and fruit supplies due to the unconscientiousness of trade workers, or even to the violation of trade regulations. In particular, this can be observed in a number of Kherson stores." This cannot be tolerated, for this matter involves satisfying the daily needs of the working people.

Pains must also be taken to provide processing enterprises with vegetables and fruit and to store produce for the winter season. Not even one kilogram of produce may be wasted anywhere.

Vegetable and fruit stocks can be supplemented through purchases from the population. Kolkhoz peasants, workers and employees willingly offer their surplus produce from private plots. Rural procurement centers must be organized and manned with conscientious people.

"To gather vegetables promptly and without losses, to offer more of them, in a larger selection and better quality, to provide them for current consumption and for storage--this is a responsible task that can only be accomplished by the common efforts of kolkhoz and sovkhoz workers, urban patron enterprises and organizations, procurement organs and trade."

EARLY AUGUST WEATHER, CROP DEVELOPMENT REVIEWED

LD210925Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 15 Aug 78 p 1 LD

[Report by N. Sakharova, junior scientific associate of the USSR Hydrometeorological Center agrometeorological forecasts department: "The Weather and Crops"]

[Text] Moderately warm weather has persisted over most of the European part of the USSR's territory.

The average air temperature over the 10-day period [through 10 August] was near normal. The maximum air temperature reached 25-30 degrees. In northeastern areas of the RSFSR it was 17-23 degrees, and in the Volga area and the North Caucasus 30-36 degrees. Rain fell mainly in the second half of the 10-day period.

The border of waxy ripeness in spring barley runs along a line linking Tallinn, Pskov, Vitebsk, Smolensk, Kalinin, Vladimir, Yoshkar-Ola and Ufa. In areas further north the spring barley has mostly been at the milky ripeness stage.

Waxy ripeness in spring wheat and oats has been recorded in south Belorussia, the south Central Region, in the Volga area south of Ulyanovsk and in parts of south Bashkiria. The border of milky ripeness ran along a line linking Leningrad, Kostroma and Kudymkar. In areas further north wheat and oats were at the heading and ear formation phase.

In the extreme south of the Ukraine, in Krasnodarskiy Kray, in the east Stavropol area and also in places in south Moldavia and Rostrovskaya Oblast, corn has entered the milky ripeness stage. The cobs have started to flower and the grain has begun to form in corn in most rayons of Moldavia and in many oblasts of the Ukraine. The heading of panicles has been observed in the Central-Chernozem Zone, the south Volga area and the north Ukraine.

Buckwheat is flowering in the main cultivation regions and the grain is forming and swelling. Ripening has been noted in a number of central, eastern and northern oblasts of the Ukraine and in the south Central-Chernozem Region. Early-sown buckwheat has ripened in the west Ukraine and in parts of the middle Volga area.

The withering of potato haulms has begun in south Moldavia and southern oblasts of the Ukraine. The swelling of sunflower seeds is continuing where it is cultivated. By 10 August, sunflowers had ripened in southern rayons of Khersonskaya, Zaporozhskaya, Donetskaya, Nikolayevskaya, Odesskaya and Rostrovskaya oblasts and in Krasnodarskiy and Stavropolskiy krays.

By the end of the 10-day period cucumbers had ripened in the Ukraine, in the south Central-Chernozem Zone and in the Volga area south of Saratov. In more northern areas they are flowering or forming flower clusters.

Tomatoes have reached pink and complete ripeness in the Ukraine (excluding western and northwestern oblasts), Moldavia, the North Caucasus and the Volga area south of Saratov.

In northern areas of the European territory cereal grasses have grown after cutting. Further south they have begun the ear formation stage and in extreme southern areas flowering for the second cut has started.

In the farming areas of Siberia and in Kazakhstan the average air temperature over the 10-day period was 1-4 degrees below normal. Spring wheat is now at the milky ripeness phase there. Waxy ripeness has neen noted in most of Kustanayskaya and Pavlodarskaya oblasts and in west Altayskiy and south Krasnoyarskiy krays.

Leaf formation is continuing in corn in southern areas of West Siberia, in northern and eastern oblasts of Kazakhstan and in farming areas of East Siberia. Buckwheat is flowering and the grain is forming and swelling. Tuber growth is continuing in potatoes.

Hot dry weather has persisted in the Central Asian republics. In the last days of the 10-day period bolls began to open in early cotton crops in south Tadzhikistan and Maryyskaya Oblast as well as in Mamanganskaya, Andizhanskaya and Ferganskaya oblasts.

RADIO HITS UNDERUTILIZATION OF HARVEST EQUIPMENT

LD192340Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2115 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Summary] Farmers in the USSR are striving to fulfill their enhanced pledges for the sale of grain to the state, and to catch up on the shortfall of the first 2 years of the 5-year plan period. In Orenburgskaya Oblast farmers have pledged to sell the state at least 5.5 million tons of excellent grain crops. They have already reaped more than 3 million tons of grain crops and threshed about 2 million hectares. Several rayons are obtaining yields of over 24 quintals per hectare.

There is a good harvest of ear crops in Saratovskaya Oblast; more than 3 million hectares have been reaped. "At the same time, in a number of oblasts not everything has yet been done in order to use the [word indistinct] of the combine park fully. Machine operators in Voronezhskaya Oblast are harvesting only 10 hectares per day per combine, and in Lipetskaya Oblast the figure is only 7 hectares. The same can be said about (?several) oblasts in Siberia. For example, in Altayskiy Kray the combines are harvesting an average of 10.5 hectares per machine per day, and in Kemerovskaya Oblast 7 hectares. In a number of places, many combines are standing idle because of mechanical faults, bad organization [words indistinct]. In Kirovskaya Oblast 550 combines are not participating in the harvest; in Kurganskaya Oblast the figure is 1,200; in Novosibirskaya Oblast it is 1,400.

"(Aleksandr Abalkin), head of the agricultural production directorate of Saratovskaya Oblispolkom, has made serious accusations against selkhoztekhnika enterprises. For 1,300 harvesting transport complexes, there are only 580 [word indistinct] units in the oblast. Machine operators (?are complaining) because for each [word indistinct] of the harvesting transport complexes there is only one mobile living quarter [vagonshchik] and therefore the combine drivers and other machine operators are forced to live in tents. In cold weather, and especially at night, this is most uncomfortable.

"The number of serious shortcomings also includes (?the fact that trucks are not being made up with two shifts of drivers). Therefore, only 15-30 percent of the transport capacity is being used at night. Because of the bad organization of unloading work, truck transport is standing idle in a number of bread reception points." The use of transport in harvesting must be improved, and the example of southern areas in this field should be studied.

MEDIA REPORTS GRAIN HARVEST DATA IN OBLASTS, REPUBLICS

IZVESTIYA Roundup

LD210839 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 August 1978 Morning Edition front-pages a roundup of the latest grain harvest figures from various oblasts. From Krasnodarskiy Kray it is reported that "3.4 million tons of grain has entered the state's granaries from the Kuban grain growers. Of this figure, 2.85 million tons consists of strong and valuable varieties of wheat. The grain harvest in the kray is complete. Winter wheat on 1.5 million hectares has yielded an average of 39.5 quintals per hectare, while winter barley on 300,000 hectares has yielded almost 41 quintals per hectare."

From Volgogradskaya Oblast it is reported that the oblast's farms had sold 2,721,000 tons of grain to the state by 16 August. Odesskaya Oblast kolkhozes and sovkhozes have delivered 1,273,000 tons of grain to the elevators and grain reception centers. From Saratovskaya Oblast it is reported that "1.2 million tons of cereal grain have been poured into the state's granaries by the oblast's grain growers. Grains and pulse crops have been reaped on an area of 2.7 million hectares here and grain and pulses have been threshed on 1.4 million hectares."

Penzenskaya Oblast farmers have poured 136,000 tons of grain into the state granaries. "Grain has been reaped on 574,000 hectares and 258,000 hectares of grain have been threshed."

Volgograd, Voronezh, Lipetsk Report

LD181119Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Aug 78 p 1 LD

[TASS report: "Granaries Filling"]

[Excerpt] Volgograd--By yesterday Volgogradskaya Oblast farmers had threshed 5 million tons of grain. Farms in Kalachevskiy Rayon were the first to fulfill their pledges for grain sales to the state. They have delivered to reception centers almost 170,000 tons of grain, or 72 percent more than the plan. Grain dispatching is continuing.

Voronezh--The oblast's farmers have dispatched the millionth ton of grain to the motherland's granaries. Reception centers are receiving 70,000-80,000 tons of the new harvest's grain every 24 hours. In the oblast's fields the example of the Ipatovskiy Rayon farmers is being followed by 644 harvesting and transportation complexes, and party groups have been set up in each. All combines are equipped with attachments for cutting lodged grain crops and have been sealed. Harvesting units are manned by experienced machine operators in two shifts. Workers of industrial enterprises, construction sites and establishments, who have completed courses for combine, tractor and truck driving, have come to the assistance of rural working people.

Grain sales to the state are continuing.

Lipetsk--The oblast's machine operators have cut early grain crops on 500,000 hectares. Drivers are delivering 30,000-40,000 tons of grain to the elevators and reception centers every day. V. Sinyachkin, combine operator on Dobrinskiy Rayon's Ilich Kolhoz, is setting an example of shock labor in reaping. He was the first machine operator to thresh more than 5,000 quintals of grain.

'Good' Harvest in Belorussia

LD192334Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2100 GMT 19 Aug 78 LD

[Text] A good harvest has been grown in Belorussia, but the harvesting period has arrived here later than usual. Grain growers are harvesting barley, rye and wheat simultaneously. The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and the republican Council of Ministers have appealed to agricultural workers to apply their ability and skill in order to raise efficiency in the use of equipment, to finish cutting and threshing the grain in a short time, and to fulfill with honor the pledges given to the state for the production and sale of grain.

MOSCOW DESCRIBES COSMONAUTS' SPACESUITS DURING SPACEWALK

LD202208Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 20 Aug 78 LD

[From the "Radio Mailbag" program]

[Summary] A Moscow listener wishes to know the purpose of the recent Salyut-6 spacewalk. He also wants more information about the spacesuits used. (Yuriy Kolesov), a staffer of the USSR Academy of Science, replies:

The aim of the Kavalenok and Ivanchenkov spacewalk was to recover cassettes containing organic substances and various structural materials as well as an instrument used to register the impact of micrometeorites striking the station. At that time the station had been in orbit for over a year, and traces of the effect of meteorite bombardment and cosmic radiation were likely to be visible on the samples mounted outside.

Another aim was to install fresh samples and an instrument for registering cosmic rays and X-rays in order to assess the ability of the station's hull to protect the occupants from invisible rays. To do this, it was necessary to compare the evidence from the instrument outside with the evidence from a similar device inside the station.

During their spacewalk the cosmonauts wore spacesuits designed to permit them to work in space. The Salyut-6 spacemen tried out a new semistiff suit for the first time. A large glass headlight was mounted on a helmet equipped with a gold-colored visor to protect the eyes from direct solar rays. The helmet was attached in a fixed position to the rigid trunk of the suit. As in previous models, the arms and legs were sheathed in soft materials.

The cosmonauts entered or floated into the suits through a pressurized hatch in the wall. The lid of the hatch carried the life support pack, which provided the necessary microclimate within the suit, maintained the right pressure and enabled the cosmonatus to breathe. The pack was an integral part of the suit and was not connected to it by external tubes, as it was before. They had dispensed with numerous fasteners. All this increased the reliability and safety of the design. Naturally, the main systems of the suit were duplicated as an additional safety measure.

Temperature within the suit was regulated in an interesting manner. The cosmonauts' bodies were cooled by means of a special one-piece undergarment fitted with thin plastic pipes circulating cooled water. This enabled the cosmonauts to carry out practically any physical work without overheating. The new suit has now been used successfully twice in open space.

SHORTCOMINGS NOTED IN MILITARY CONSTRUCTION WORK

LD180818Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Aug 78 p 2 LD

[Article by Marshal of Engineer Troops A. Gelovani, USSR deputy defense minister for construction and the billeting of troops: "High Responsibility"]

[Text] Each year on the second Sunday in August a wonderful holiday arrives in the Soviet land--Construction Workers Day. The entire Soviet people celebrate this holiday along with those who construct industrial enterprises, agricultural and defense projects, apartment blocks, cultural, educational and everyday institutions and those who work in construction industry plants and planning organizations. For the successes of working people in other sectors of the national economy and the prosperity of the whole people depend to a large extent on the state of affairs in capital construction.

The scope of capital construction in our country is enormous. The whole country is a giant construction site. Each year 20 new cities appear on the map of our motherland, 8 industrial projects are commissioned each week and 30,000 people move into new apartments each day. In the first 6 months of the 3d year of the 10th 5-Year Plan alone, fixed capital worth more than R26 billion was commissioned from state capital investments in the country--11 percent more than in the same period last year.

And all these glorious deeds result from the labor of construction workers, representatives of a profession, whose mass heroism in everyday work is vividly displayed in specific practical deeds, in labor and sociopolitical activity and in the tremendous scope of socialist competition.

The USSR Defense Ministry capital construction workers are an integral part and a militant detachment of the multimillion-strong army of construction workers of the land of the soviets. Their labor is reflected in all the achievements to fulfill the construction program outlined by the 25th CPSU Congress. In the first 2.5 years of the 10th 5-Year Plan, military construction workers constructed, modernized and repaired a great many projects for the soldiers of the USSR Armed Forces: apartment blocks, canteens, clubs, shops, tearooms, sports halls, consumer services combines, sanatoria, hospitals, tourist centers and others. Military construction workers participate in the erection of industrial and agricultural complexes and installations. During the current 5-year plan Soviet people have received from them about 6 million square meters of useful housing.

The year of 1978 is an important time for military construction workers with respect to fulfilling the capital construction tasks set by the 25th party congress, by the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and by the USSR Ministry of Defense. The results of the first 6 months prove that we possess all the necessary conditions for solving the tasks. The all-army socialist competition among military construction workers has helped us to cope successfully with the plan targets for the first 7 months. The construction site working people of the Carpathian Military District--who initiated the competition--are taking the lead. Things are going successfully for the construction workers of the Moscow, Leningrad, Belorussian and Turkestan military districts. The construction projects of central jurisdiction headed by Comrades Yu. Gorbanev, V. Grigorkin, G. Glazunov, V. Kostrikin, Yu. Skorikov and many others are coping with the 1978 plan targets. By Construction Workers Day a number of collectives have fulfilled ahead of schedule their 8-month production program and many teams, sections and subunits have fulfilled their 9-month plan.

However, new horizons await us and what has been achieved naturally cannot be regarded as grounds for complacency, especially since stoppages and omissions still exist on a number of construction sites. [paragraph continues]

Against the background of the general fulfillment of plan targets, some work supervisors' offices and enterprises are failing to cope with the plans and therefore with the socialist pledges. Construction duration sometimes exceeds the stated deadlines. Capital investments and resources are dissipated on certain military construction sites, which makes it impossible to reduce the amount of uncompleted construction to a minimum. Unfortunately, there are also production leaders who have failed to take measures aimed at increasing labor productivity. The planned level of the machine and machinery pool usage has not been achieved everywhere. Designers also deserve considerable criticism: Incomplete technical documentation is sometimes issued, and sometimes the documentation is also issued late. Construction industry enterprises do not always observe the deadlines for the delivery of their output. In a number of instances construction workers are disappointed by supply organs.

All these shortcomings not only disrupt the rhythm and sequence of production but also adversely affect the state of military and labor discipline and relations in collectives. The instances that still exist of unsatisfactory work and the commissioning of installations with major defects and the cases of eyewash emanate from disorder and a lack of organization. These phenomena are rare but unfortunately they do exist. The duty of commanders, chiefs, political organizers and party, trade union and Komsomol organizations is to end these shortcomings as rapidly as possible.

There are still many unsolved problems on military construction sites. The basis of all our organizational and party political work must be the party's demand: Insure the timely commissioning of all planned projects. In the light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee December (1977) Plenum and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speeches during his trip to the regions of Siberia and the Far East and also of the USSR Ministry of Defense's directions, specific measures aimed at reducing the amount of uncompleted construction by concerning capital investments and material resources on the most important projects are being implemented in military construction collectives. Control of the construction of projects nearing completion has been established. Particular attention has been paid to the timely commissioning of cultural and everyday installations and apartment blocs.

It is gratifying that many production collectives, realizing their lofty responsibility, have begun this year to study more persistently the question of increasing labor productivity, improving production organization and making rational use of machines and machinery. This has improved the results of their work. But all these problems have still not been totally solved and they must continue to be at the center of attention.

The past few months have been a period of transition to progressive forms of planning, the provision of economic incentives and work payment in construction. Today practically all the collectives are working under the new conditions, which naturally enhances the efficiency and quality of all our work. But here too there is broad scope for initiative and creative work; the new forms must be improved in conformity with specific local conditions.

The active introduction of team financial autonomy still remains an extremely important task. It is necessary to persistently study and generalize the positive experience of the best contract teams, to strive to insure its mass repetition and to insure for each construction site the conditions necessary for fulfillment of its contract commitments.

Many collectives have also achieved good results in lowering the prime cost of construction and installation work and reducing unproductive expenditure. These include primarily the administration headed by Comrades V. Subbotin and A. Kotov. However, further progress, the introduction into construction practice of automated control systems and the latest scientific and technical achievements--these tasks remain on the agenda. New potential for raising capital investment efficiency is created by providing all the hardware for production operations, that is, the engineering, comprehensive, scientifically substantiated provision of construction sites with all types of resources, materials, structures and equipment. Following the example of the Main Military Construction Directorate, this method must be introducted more boldly into practice.

Socialist competition is a fundamental lever in mobilizing all the USSR Ministry of Defense's capital construction workers to fulfill the 1978 plan targets. The movement for the timely and ahead-of-schedule commissioning of production capacities, agricultural, cultural and everyday projects and apartment blocks has gained wide scope on military construction sites. The comprehensive competition among subcontractors is yielding weighty results. An example of this is the success of the construction workers of the army central sports club football and track-and-field athletics complex--a project for Olympiad 80. Another example is the work supervisor's office collective from the Carpathian Military District led by Lt Col Engr N. Zakharov, which is working on a modern technical basis, ahead of schedule and to high standards.

Living, creative competition engenders a mass of valuable intitatives and undertakings. There is the "5-day target in 4 days" movement, the handing over of projects with a worker guarantee, the organization of work according to the team contract method and much more. It is a party duty and the official duty of leaders at every level and the vital concern of party, trade union and Komsomol organizations to further develop socialist competition, support and disseminate valuable experience and create all the conditions for competing organizations to fulfill their pledges.

The communists and all working people on military construction sites have received as an inspiring action program the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum decisions and the report at the plenum by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, which are permeated by deep concern for the people's good. Military construction workers see the fulfillment of the plan targets of the 3d year of the 5-year plan as their worthy contribution to strengthening the economic might of the Soviet state and to enhancing the combat readiness and might of the USSR Armed Forces.

KAZAKOV, KUTAKHOV ADDRESS MEETING DEVOTED TO AVIATION DAY

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[Text] A festive meeting of the capital's working people and warriors of the Moscow garrison has taken place ir Moscow, devoted to Aviation Day. Speeches were made to those present by Kazakov, minister of the aviation industry; Kutakhov, commander-in-chief of the air force; the USSR deputy minister of defense, the chief marshal of aviation and others. To loud applause the participants in the meeting adopted a letter of greetings to the Central Committee of the CPSU and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev.

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